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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Report to the Supreme Court of Iowa

by

The Court Administrator of the Judicial Department

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TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 602.1209, subsection 6, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, I submit herewith the 1983 report relating to the activity of the judicial department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the various clerks of the Iowa District Court, district court administrators and judicial officers for their cooperation in reporting judicial statistics to this office.

Respectfully,

William J. O'Brien
Court Administrator

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STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND TRENDS

Appellate Courts

1. In 1983, there were 1,781 filings (1,290 civil, 491 criminal) and 1,903 dispositions (1,273 civil, 630 criminal); filings decreased 3.7 percent, while dispositions rose 6.1 percent from 1982.

2. Since 1973, the number of filings in the appellate courts soared 82.7 percent (975 to 1,781) or an average of 8.3 percent per year; the number of filings per appellate judge jumped 10.2 percent (108 to 119). [Table 11]

3. There were 1,003 formal dispositions (705 civil, 298 criminal) in the appellate courts in 1983 -- an increase of 13.1 percent (882 to 1,003) from 1982. By formal opinion, the supreme court disposed of 455 cases (306 civil, 149 criminal); the court of appeals handled 548 cases (399 civil, 149 criminal). The number of civil cases disposed of by formal opinion in the appellate courts rose 16.1 percent (607 to 705) over 1982 figures; the number of criminal cases rose 8.4 percent (275 to 298). There were 900 appellate cases (568 civil, 332 criminal) terminated by order or other mode prior to submission to the court. [Tables 3 and 9]

4. In 1983, cases involving domestic relations (dissolutions and child custody) comprised 32.6 percent (230 of 705) of the formal appellate decisions in civil cases -- the largest single category of dispositions. The 112 administrative law cases comprised the second most numerous type of civil case -- up 31.8 percent from 1982. [Tables 3 and 9]

5. The average appellate case terminated by formal opinion was decided about 5-1/2 months after it was ready for submission; the average elapse time from the filing of a notice of appeal to the time a case was ready for submission was almost eight months. Regular civil cases submitted to the supreme court in January 1984, were made ready on or before September 1983 -- a delay of four months or three months less delay than a year earlier.

6. During 1983, the number of pending cases in the appellate courts fell 11.4 percent (1,345 to 1,191). The number of cases "ready" for disposition decreased 30.6 percent (444 to 308). [A "ready" case in this context is defined as any pending case in which all

necessary papers have been filed; it includes cases which have been submitted to the court but not decided.] [Tables 4 and 8]

7. By formal opinion, the appellate courts affirmed the decision of the trial court 65.4 percent of the time; district court rulings had a 21.2 percent chance of being reversed; in 13.4 percent of the cases the appellate courts rendered a mixed decision partially affirming and reversing the trial court. There were 197 applications to the supreme court for further review of a court of appeals decision; the court granted further review in 23 cases while denying application for further review in 174 other instances. The supreme court vacated the judgment of the court of appeals in 18 cases, and affirmed six decisions in 1983.

Trial Court

1. In the 27-year period since 1956, the first year trial court statistics were collected and analyzed at the state level, the number of civil filings escalated 124.6 percent (22,922 to 51,476) while the number of criminal filings skyrocketed 546.7 percent (6,178 to 39,952); the number of civil/criminal filings per district judge mushroomed 122.1 percent (416 to 924). [Appendix F] Iowa's population grew 7.0 percent (2,722,375 to 2,913,808) during this period.

2. Since 1956, the number of civil/criminal dispositions per district court judge jumped 87.8 percent (394 to (740). [Appendix H]

3. Since 1956, the number of juvenile petitions soared 244.6 percent (1,607 to 5,538); however, since the 1978 revision of the juvenile justice code, the number of petitions filed in juvenile matters has plummeted 10.4 percent (6,179 to 5,538). The number of probate cases opened rose 50.2 percent (16,137 to 24,233) since 1956. [Appendix F]

4. Since the 1977 legislative freeze on district judgeships (modified in 1981 and 1983 to permit the appointment of seven additional district judges), civil filings increased 18.8 percent (43,324 to 51,476); criminal filings climbed 38.8 percent (28,795 to 39,952). Overall, civil/criminal filings rose 26.8 percent (72,119 to 91,428) in the four-year period. The February 1984 application of the district judgeship formula (based on 1981, 1982 and 1983 filing statistics) entitles Iowa to 125 judgeships -- an increase of 26 over the 99 district court judges currently serving in the trial court. [Appendix F]

5. Since the first calendar year after unification of the district court (1974), the number of simple misdemeanors/scheduled violations filings increased 31.6 percent (484,651 to 637,552) while the number of small claims petitions fluctuated from 68,021 to 82,208 and then down to 67,298 in 1983. The 1983 figures show a 4.4 percent drop in the number of simple misdemeanor filings, a 2.2 percent decline in the number of scheduled violations and a 1.0 percent decrease in the number of small claims filed in the district court from the previous year. [Appendix G]

6. In 1983, only 851 of the 221,841 simple misdemeanors (0.4 percent) and 803 of the 24,556 small claims (3.3

percent) terminated by judicial officers were appealed to the district court. [Tables 4 and 5]

7. In 1983, dissolutions and modifications (16,674), uniform support (7,400), and domestic abuse (150) filings accounted for 24,224 cases or 47.1 percent of all civil filings (51,476). Indictable misdemeanor cases involving first and second offense drunk driving (OWI) comprised 16,027 of the 39,952 criminal filings or 40.1 percent of the total. There were 8,160 felony filings in 1983 -- up 96 cases or 1.2 percent from the 8,064 felony filings in 1982. [Tables 4 and 5]

I. APPELLATE COURTS

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

The Supreme Court of Iowa is comprised of nine justices. The chief justice is selected by a vote of the court and serves for the duration of his or her eight-year term of office. As of December 31, 1983, ninety-seven persons have served on the supreme court since Iowa became a territory on July 12, 1838. Although the high court was comprised of only three justices during the first 25 years, the general assembly increased the court's membership to four in 1864, to five in 1876, to six in 1894, to seven in 1913, to eight in 1927, and nine in 1929, as a result of rising caseload.

At the end of 1983, the justices of the supreme court listed in order of seniority were: Harvey Uhlenhopp (Hampton), W. W. Reynoldson, Chief Justice (Osceola), K. David Harris (Jefferson), Mark McCormick (Des Moines), Arthur A. McGiverin (Ottumwa), Jerry L. Larson (Harlan), Louis W. Schultz (Iowa City), James H. Carter (Cedar Rapids) and Charles R. Wolle (Sioux City). Justice Wolle replaced Justice Clay LeGrand who retired February 26, 1983.

The method of selecting justices to the Supreme Court of Iowa has changed several times since 1838. While the three territorial justices were appointed by the President of the United States, when Iowa became a state on December 28, 1846, the constitution provided for the selection of supreme court justices by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. Iowa's second constitution, adopted in 1857, reflected the mood of Jacksonian democracy and called for the popular election of judges. Finally, in 1962, Iowa voters ratified a constitutional amendment which removed judges from partisan elections and established a 15-member State Judicial Nominating Commission comprised of seven laypersons appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and seven attorneys elected by members of the Iowa bar. The supreme court justice with the longest service, other than the chief justice, chairs the commission. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court of Iowa, the commission nominates three individuals from whom the governor selects one. One year following initial appointment, and every eight years thereafter, supreme court justices stand for retention at the general election. Trial and appellate judges appointed after July 1, 1965, must retire by age 72; those appointed earlier may serve until their 75th birthday.

Procedures were established in 1975 for the discipline and removal of judges standing for retention election. The Commission on Judicial Qualifications may apply to the supreme court to retire, discipline or remove any justice, judge or

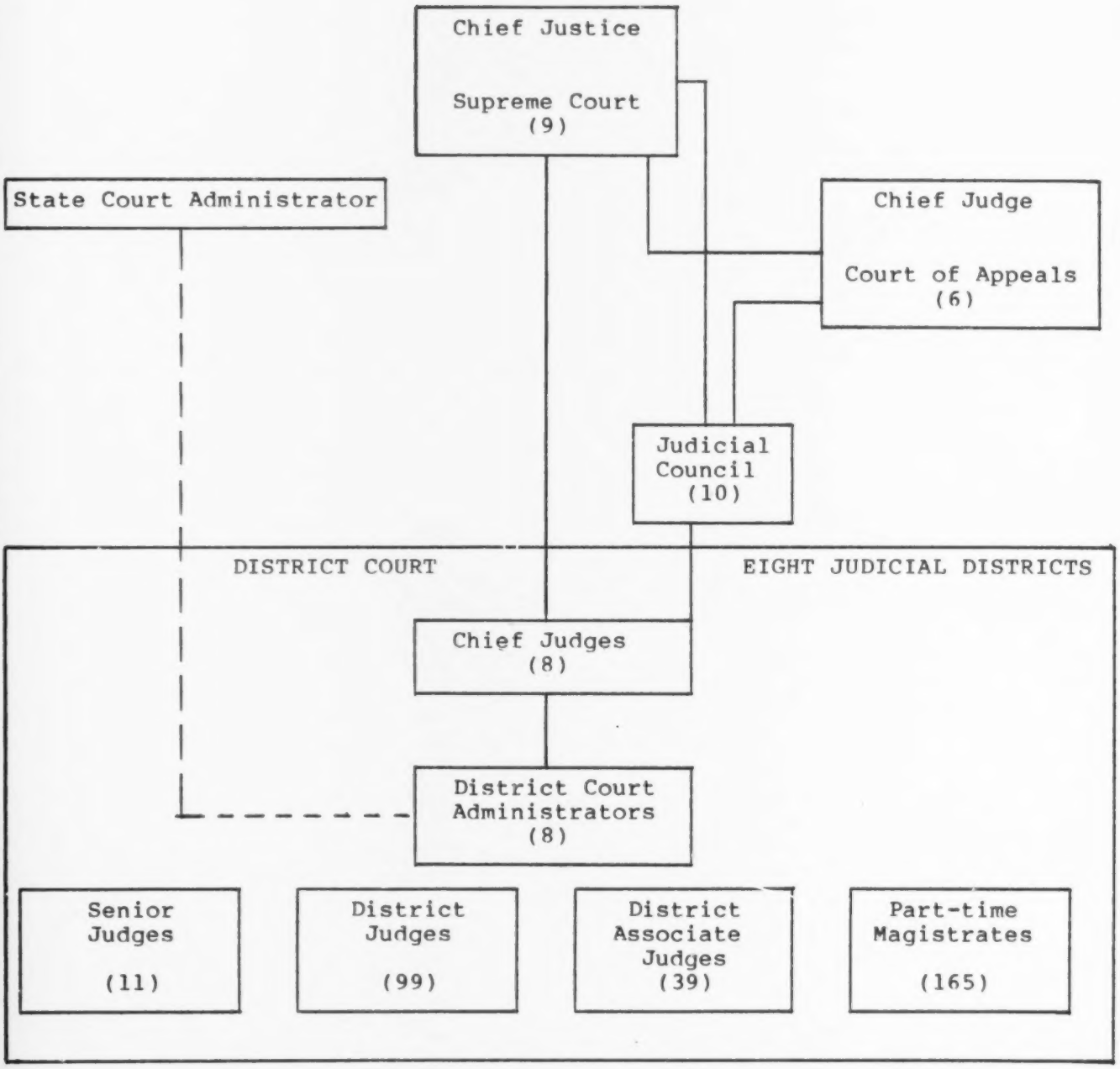
magistrate. The commission is comprised of a district court judge and two practicing attorneys appointed by the chief justice of the Supreme Court and four non-attorney electors appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

The Supreme Court stands at the apex of the Iowa judicial system. The court has general appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. The court also has original jurisdiction in such cases as reapportionment, bar discipline and the issuance of temporary injunctions. The supreme court has jurisdiction over all appeals from final judgments and from interlocutory orders. It also has the authority to grant writs of certiorari in cases where a district court is alleged to have exceeded its jurisdiction or otherwise acted illegally. A majority of cases handled by the supreme court are appeals from adverse final judgments in the trial court and the Iowa District Court. Except where the action involves an interest in real estate, no appeal shall be taken in any case where the amount in controversy, as shown by the pleadings, is less than $3,000 unless the trial judge certifies that the cause is one in which appeal should be allowed. In small claims actions, where the amount in controversy is $1,000 or less, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review. In criminal cases where the state is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: 1) an order dismissing an arrest or search warrant, 2) an order suppressing or admitting evidence, 3) an order granting or denying a change of venue, and 4) a final judgment or order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. In cases where the defendant is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases; 1) an order suppressing or admitting evidence, 2) an order granting or denying a change of venue, 3) an order denying probation, 4) simple misdemeanor or ordinance violation convictions, and 5) an order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. All other final judgments may be appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. [See diagram of the Iowa judicial system on the next page.]

The 1976 Session of the 66th General Assembly established a five-member Court of Appeals. [The Court of Appeals was increased to six members in 1983.] All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court which transfers cases to the intermediate court. Supreme court justices in rotating three-member panels determine which cases to retain and which matters to route to the court of appeals. Pursuant to Rule 401, Rules of Appellate Procedure, the supreme court ordinarily shall hear (not transfer) cases involving: 1) substantial constitutional questions as to the validity of a statute, ordinance or court or administrative rule; 2) substantial issues in which there is or is claimed to be a

CHART 1

IOWA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
(January 1, 1984)



conflict with a published decision of the court of appeals or supreme court; 3) substantial issues of first impression; 4) fundamental and urgent issues of broad public importance requiring prompt or ultimate determination; 5) cases in which life imprisonment has been imposed; 6) lawyer discipline; and 7) substantial questions of enunciating or changing legal principles. The rule also suggests summary disposition of certain cases by the supreme court and transfer to the court of appeals of cases involving the application of existing legal principles.

In addition to deciding cases, the supreme court is authorized to supervise the administration of justice and promulgate rules of procedure for the district court, determine the rules for admission and discipline of the bar, regulate a client security fund and program of mandatory continuing education for lawyers and judges, and adopt rules regulating appellate practice and procedure. In exercising its administrative and supervisory control over the trial court, the Supreme Court of Iowa appoints a chief judge in each of the eight judicial districts. The chief judges are responsible for overseeing all judges and magistrates within their jurisdictions. Together with the chief justice of the supreme court and the chief judge of the court of appeals, the chief judges of the district court comprise a Judicial Council. The council is authorized to consider all court administrative rules, directives, and regulations necessary to provide for an efficient, orderly, and effective administration of justice in Iowa.

Assisting the supreme court in its administrative, supervisory, and decision-making roles are the court administrator, clerk of court, legal assistants, and various boards and commissions. Since 1967, each justice has been authorized to appoint a legal assistant to assist in research. In 1971, the legislature authorized the supreme court to appoint a court administrator. Serving at the pleasure of the supreme court, the court administrator and his staff have many statutory and administrative responsibilities including: screening cases for oral argument and case routing, writing case statements, gathering statistical data on the judicial business at all levels, examining the state of the dockets in the district court and recommending the assignment of judges to courts in need of assistance, apportioning judicial magistrates among the counties, computing the district court judgeship formula, conducting judicial education programs, recommending improvements in the organization and operation of the judicial system, administering the judicial retirement system, handling payroll and travel expenses for the judicial department, planning and budgeting for the supreme court and its administrative office, providing administrative assistance to various court-appointed committees and attending to such matters as the supreme court may direct. The court administrator serves

as the executive secretary for the Judicial Qualifications Commission; the court administrator is also a member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency, State Library Commission, and the State Records Commission.

The clerk of court is appointed by the supreme court to a four-year term. The clerk of the supreme court also serves as the clerk of the court of appeals. The clerk dockets and monitors all cases appealed to the court, collects court fees, files legal briefs, appendices, and records, files and records every opinion and order of the appellate courts. The clerk is responsible for the sale of court opinions, the administration of the biannual Iowa bar examination and the election of attorney-members to the state and judicial election district nominating commissions. The clerk of the supreme court also collects and accounts for all fees associated with the state bar examination and the shorthand reporter examination and certification.

In its role as supervisor of the Iowa bar, the supreme court appoints the members of the Board of Law Examiners, and confirms as commissioners of the court the members of the Grievance Commission and the Committee on Professional Ethics and Conduct. With the assistance of the Iowa State Bar Association, in 1973, the court established the Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary System designed to prevent defalcations by members of the Iowa bar and provide for the payment of losses caused to the public by dishonest conduct of Iowa attorneys. The court appointed a seven-member commission to administer the fund resulting from annual assessment imposed on attorneys. The supreme court also has provided that all Iowa lawyers and judges must complete a minimum of 15 hours of continuing legal education each year. In 1975, a 12-member Commission on Continuing Legal Education was appointed to exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of the rule.

The supreme court is responsible for promulgating rules of evidence, appellate, civil, criminal, juvenile and probate procedure. The court also is authorized to prescribe rules of evidence, pleading, practice, and procedure, and the forms of process, writs, and notices for all proceedings concerning hospitalization of mentally ill persons and chemical substance abuse. In exercising its rule-making authority, the supreme court is assisted by several committees including: 1) the Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure; 2) the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure, 3) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Iowa Rules of Evidence, 4) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure, and 5) the Probate Rules Committee. In developing rules for the hospitalization of the mentally ill, the supreme court has been assisted by the Iowa State Bar Association's Committee on Law and Behavioral Sciences.

Work Load

During 1983, the Supreme Court of Iowa disposed of 455 cases by written opinion -- 301 civil, 149 criminal and 5 disciplinary [Table 1]. As illustrated in the chart below, the number of formal opinions (signed and unsigned) decreased 2.6 percent (467 to 455) from 1982 to 1983. The number of formal opinions has increased 18.8 percent (383 to 455) since 1981. While the number of per curiam opinions stabilized between 1982 and 1983, since 1980, the number of unsigned per curiam opinions jumped 600 percent (25 to 174). The dramatic increase in the number of per curiam opinions during the last two years has been the result of a new "fast track" decision process whereby less complex cases are submitted without oral argument to rotating three-judge panels.

	Signed Court Opinions	Unsigned Per Curiam Opinions	Total
1983	281	174	455
1982	289	178	467
1981	278	105	383
1980	250	25	275
1979	265	25	290
1978	312	45	357
1977	285	89	374

As illustrated in Table 2, 92.1 percent of the cases (419 of 455) decided by formal opinion were appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. There were 348 appeals from final judgments in the district court, 29 appeals from interlocutory rulings, 17 post-conviction appeals, 5 attorney disciplinary actions and 4 cases involving certified questions of law from the U.S. District Court. The Supreme Court of Iowa exercised discretionary review in only 36 cases -- 23 cases appealed from the court of appeals, 9 original certiorari cases and 4 small claims cases.

Table 3 shows the most numerous types of civil cases disposed of by written opinion concerned domestic relations (59), administrative law (56), torts (55), contracts (46) and post-conviction relief (17). Of the 149 criminal cases, 40 involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing issues, exclusively.

In addition to writing 455 opinions during 1983, the nine supreme court justices registered 47 dissents and 7 special concurrences. Their opinions totaled 3,008 pages or 334 pages per judge on the double-spaced, letter-sized paper. The average supreme court opinion was approximately 6.6 pages in length. Over 94 percent of the rulings (412 of 455) were approved by a unanimous vote of the justices deciding the case.

Cases filed before the supreme court declined from 1,849 (1982) to 1,781 (1983) -- a decrease of 3.7 percent. As noted in Table 11, the number of filings in the supreme court has mushroomed 82.7 percent (975 to 1,781) during the last decade. Since 1973, civil filings have soared 98.2 percent (611 to 1,211) while criminal cases have climbed nearly one-quarter (364 to 450).

Table 4 indicates the number of civil and criminal cases "In Work," "Ready," "Assigned" and "Out-to-Judges" which were pending as of January 1, 1982, 1983 and 1984. From December 31, 1982, to the end of 1983, the number of cases "In Work" fell 2.0 percent (901 to 883) while the number of cases "Ready" for disposition decreased 13.0 percent (185 to 161). The total number of pending cases declined by 48 cases (1,155 to 1,107) or 4.2 percent.

When the pending cases in both appellate courts are examined, figures show an overall decrease of 11.4 percent (1,345 to 1,107) in the number of pending cases from December 31, 1982, to the end of 1983. Including cases assigned and submitted but not decided, the number of cases ready for disposition (i.e., all necessary papers filed) declined 30.6 percent (444 to 308) during 1983.

As noted in Table 5, the average elapse time from "Ready" for submission to supreme court decision was 5.5 months in 1983 -- a slight decrease over the 5.9 months processing time in 1982. The elapse time for regular civil cases was 6.8 months. While delay in the court has increased in the last couple years, the disposition time did not compare with the situation that existed in 1976, before the court of appeals was established, when the average non-priority civil case took over 20 months to be decided after it was ready.

An examination of the direction of the supreme court decisions during 1983, indicates that 62 percent of the district court rulings were affirmed by the court, 25 percent were reversed, and 13 percent were mixed. (A "mixed" supreme court decision is defined as a ruling which both "affirms" and "modifies" or "reverses" parts of a district court ruling.) Forty-four cases involving such matters as attorney disciplinary actions, appeals from the court of appeals, certification of questions of law and original jurisdiction matters were not classified or included in the disposition direction computation.

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Affirmed	68	64	63	57	53	67	64	62
Reversed	23	30	27	33	33	23	23	25
Mixed	9	6	10	10	14	10	13	13

Sixty percent of the cases (273/458) disposed of by written opinion were appealed from the trial courts of eleven metropolitan counties. Nearly one out of five cases arose in Polk County.

Counties	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total Cases Disposed
Polk	85	18.7
Scott	23	5.1
Black Hawk	26	5.7
Linn	30	6.6
Dubuque	17	3.7
Pottawattamie	23	5.1
Johnson	11	2.4
Woodbury	22	4.8
Clinton	11	2.4
Lee	14	3.1
Story	11	2.4
TOTAL	273	60.0

In addition to the 455 supreme court cases disposed of by formal opinion after submission to the court, 1,342 cases (892 civil and 450 criminal) were disposed of by court order, consolidation, dismissal by the clerk for failure to cure a default or by voluntary action by the parties involved. Table 6 shows 105 cases were dismissed by order of the supreme court; 184 orders were issued denying petitions for various types of review; 78 cases were dismissed by the clerk for failure to cure a default after notice; 365 cases were voluntarily withdrawn by the parties; 23 cases were consolidated; 449 cases were transferred by order of the supreme court to the court of appeals and 138 were disposed of by other means. In total, 1,797 filings were disposed of by the supreme court in 1983. Excluding cases transferred to the court of appeals, the supreme court disposed of 1,348 appeals in 1983.

A significant amount of judge-time also was spent ruling on preliminary motions and applications, conducting hearings, and writing 5,071 orders which did not result in the disposal of a case. Excluding orders transferring cases to the court of appeals, the number of dispository and non-dispository orders issued by the supreme court during the last seven years is illustrated on the next page.

	Dispository Orders	Nondispository Orders
1983	893	5,071
1982	923	4,939
1981	822	5,006
1980	838	4,220
1979	743	3,024
1978	718	3,445
1977	701	2,432

In recent years, several major structural and procedural changes have contributed to the supreme court's ability to handle an increasing number of appeals. One important innovation has been the reinstitution of a practice prevalent from 1929-1943; namely, hearing and deciding cases in divisions of five members. Instead of spending four days a month in court hearing oral arguments, each justice now spends two days hearing oral arguments. (During the monthly court week, Wednesdays generally are reserved for conference and administrative matters.) Except in the most complex and controversial cases in which two or more justices request disposition en banc (by the full nine-member court), cases before the supreme court are decided by division. The drafts of all proposed opinions are circulated to the entire court. At any time prior to final approval of a proposed opinion, any two justices may request that a specific case be decided en banc. The research staff initially screens all cases and recommends to a three-justice screening panel whether a case should be submitted en banc or to a division; staff attorneys also recommend the amount of oral argument time, if any, which should be allotted to each case, and whether the case should be retained by the supreme court or transferred to the court of appeals.

As noted in Table 7, 421 of the 455 supreme court decisions were decided by a panel of three or five justices. All disciplinary cases were considered en banc; 9.0 percent of the civil and 1.3 percent of the criminal cases were voted on formally by the full membership of the court. Overall, 7.5 percent of the cases disposed of in 1983 were decided by all nine justices sitting en banc. During the three previous years, the percentage of cases decided en banc was 9.9, 5.3 and 12.8 percent, respectively.

In addition to using judicial panels to hear and decide cases, the court also has conserved time by reducing the number of cases permitted oral argument and limiting the amount of time each party can use in presenting its case. While before 1973 the court allowed 75 minutes to argue a case, today most oral arguments are limited to approximately 35 minutes. In 1983, 193 of the 450 cases (43.5 percent) were

submitted without oral argument before the supreme court. Indicative of the increased number of fast track submissions handled by the court during the last two years, the number and percentage of appeals submitted without oral argument stabilized at its highest level.

Submissions to the Supreme Court

	Oral	Non-Oral	Total	Percent Non-Oral
1983	257	193	450	43.5
1982	264	217	481	45.1
1981	254	136	390	34.9
1980	236	46	282	16.3
1979	209	60	269	22.3
1978	258	96	354	27.1
1977	264	105	369	28.5
1976	242	149	391	38.1

Other factors playing crucial roles in alleviating some of the court's research and administrative burdens include: the research of legal assistants, case statements, court orders and screening recommendations drafted by the research staff, and the administrative tasks performed by the court administrator and staff, and the clerk's office.

THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

In 1976, the 66th General Assembly established a new five-member appellate court designated as the "Iowa Court of Appeals." The new court began hearing oral arguments and deciding cases in January 1977. As of December 31, 1983, the members of the Iowa Court of Appeals listed in order of seniority were: Allen L. Donielson (West Des Moines), Bruce M. Snell, Jr. (Ida Grove), Leo Oxberger, Chief Judge (St. Charles), Dick R. Schlegel (Ottumwa), Maynard J. V. Hayden (Indianola) and Rosemary Shaw Sackett (Spencer). Maynard Hayden (Indianola), Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial District, was appointed May 3, 1983, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Janet Johnson. Judge Rosemary Shaw Sackett began her duties as the new sixth judge on the court of appeals in September.

The court of appeals is authorized to review all civil and criminal actions, post-conviction remedy proceedings, small claims actions, writs, orders and other processes transferred to it by the supreme court. The Iowa Court of

Appeals hears only the cases transferred to it by the supreme court. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court.

Work Load

As indicated in Table 8, during 1983, the six-member court of appeals disposed of 555 cases -- 405 civil and 150 criminal -- the largest number of dispositions in its seven-year history. There were 178 per curiam opinions, 370 signed opinions, and seven cases dismissed by order. Since the court of appeals was established in late 1976 and began deciding cases in 1977, it has disposed of 2,982 cases (2,149 civil and 833 criminal). There were 65 civil and 19 criminal cases pending before the court of appeals at the end of 1983.

The number and type of cases disposed of by formal written opinion are illustrated in Table 9. As noted in this table, the court of appeals disposed of 171 domestic relations cases (87 involving child custody), 56 administrative law cases, 54 contract cases, 28 property and 28 tort cases. Fourteen of the 149 criminal cases involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing only.

Of the 536 cases classified by disposition, 366 or 68.3 percent were affirmed, 98 or 18.3 percent were reversed, and 72 or 13.4 percent were a combination of the two, modified or remanded only. In 1983, approximately one-third of the cases (178/548) were decided by per curiam opinion; in 1981 nearly three-fourths of the cases (368/501) were terminated by an unsigned per curiam opinion.

During 1983, the supreme court considered 197 applications for further review and granted review in 23 cases. Of the 24 court of appeals rulings reviewed by the supreme court in 1983, 18 were vacated and six were affirmed.

The average delay from the time a case was "ready" for submission to "decision" by the court of appeals was 5.7 months; about one-half month shorter than the elapse time recorded in 1982; nearly seven months less than appellate delay in 1977 -- the court's first year of operation. [Table 10] In 1983, the average elapse time for non-priority civil cases was 6.3 months -- a decrease of one-half month since 1982 but nearly ten months less than the appellate delay in 1977.

Of the 482 cases submitted to the court of appeals in 1983, 213 or 44.2 percent were heard on the record without oral argument. In 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982, the proportion of cases decided without oral argument was 52.2, 43.2, 37.1, 54.2 and 50.0 percent, respectively.

Including the 61 opinions with one or more dissents, the 548 formal opinions totaled 3,045 pages, an average of 5.6 pages per case or 508 pages per judge, counting the title page. Opinions ranged in length from 2 to 18 pages double-spaced, letter-sized paper.

Of the 548 dispositions by formal opinion, 299 or 54.6 percent were appealed from 12 counties: Polk (107), Linn (44), Black Hawk (37), Scott (31), Johnson (13), Woodbury (20), Dubuque (18), Pottawattamie (25), Cerro Gordo (14), Jasper (12), Clinton (10) and Marshall (11). During 1983, the court of appeals decided cases from 82 counties.

Iowa Appellate Courts -- Statistical Summary

There were 1,781 cases -- 1,290 civil and 491 criminal -- filed in the supreme court in 1983, down from 1,849 in 1982. The skyrocketing rise of appellate case filings from 1973 to 1983 is graphically illustrated in Table 11. Since 1973, civil filings have soared 111 percent (611 to 1,290) while the number of criminal cases docketed has mushroomed 34.9 percent (364 to 491). In 1983, there were approximately 119 filings per appellate judge.

During 1983, the supreme court and the court of appeals disposed of 1,903 cases -- 1,273 civil (including five disciplinary cases) and 630 criminal -- up from 1,794 in 1982. Nearly half of the civil (568/1,273) and criminal (332/630) dispositions were by order rather than formal opinion; 72.9 percent of these matters were dismissed by the clerk or the court, denied or consolidated; 27.1 percent were voluntarily dismissed or withdrawn. There were 1,191 cases pending (814 civil and 377 criminal) at the end of the year -- a decrease of 154 or 11.4 percent from the first of the year. The number of pending cases ready for disposition declined 30.6 percent (444 to 308) during 1983.

There were 1,003 dispositions by formal opinion -- 705 civil and 298 criminal. During 1983, the average case disposed of took slightly more than 13 months after it was docketed in the supreme court clerk's office. In the average case the parties required almost eight months to file the briefs, records, etc., and make the case ready for submission to the court; the elapse time from readiness to decision was about five and one-half months. The largest category of civil cases handled at the appellate level by formal opinion was domestic relations -- 230 of 705 civil cases or 32.6 percent. The number and types of other civil cases decided by formal opinion in the appellate courts were as follows: administrative law, 112; contracts, 100; torts, 83; post-conviction relief, 46; property, 39; trusts, estates and wills, 26. The number of appellate rulings involving domestic relations and

post-conviction relief increased 32.9 and 58.6 percent, respectively. The number of administrative law decisions rose 31.8 percent.

The supreme court disbarred five lawyers, revoked the license of one attorney, suspended the licenses of 17 lawyers and reprimanded two others. Reinstatement of attorney licenses was granted six times. Five disciplinary cases were decided by a formal opinion of the supreme court.

Financial Statement

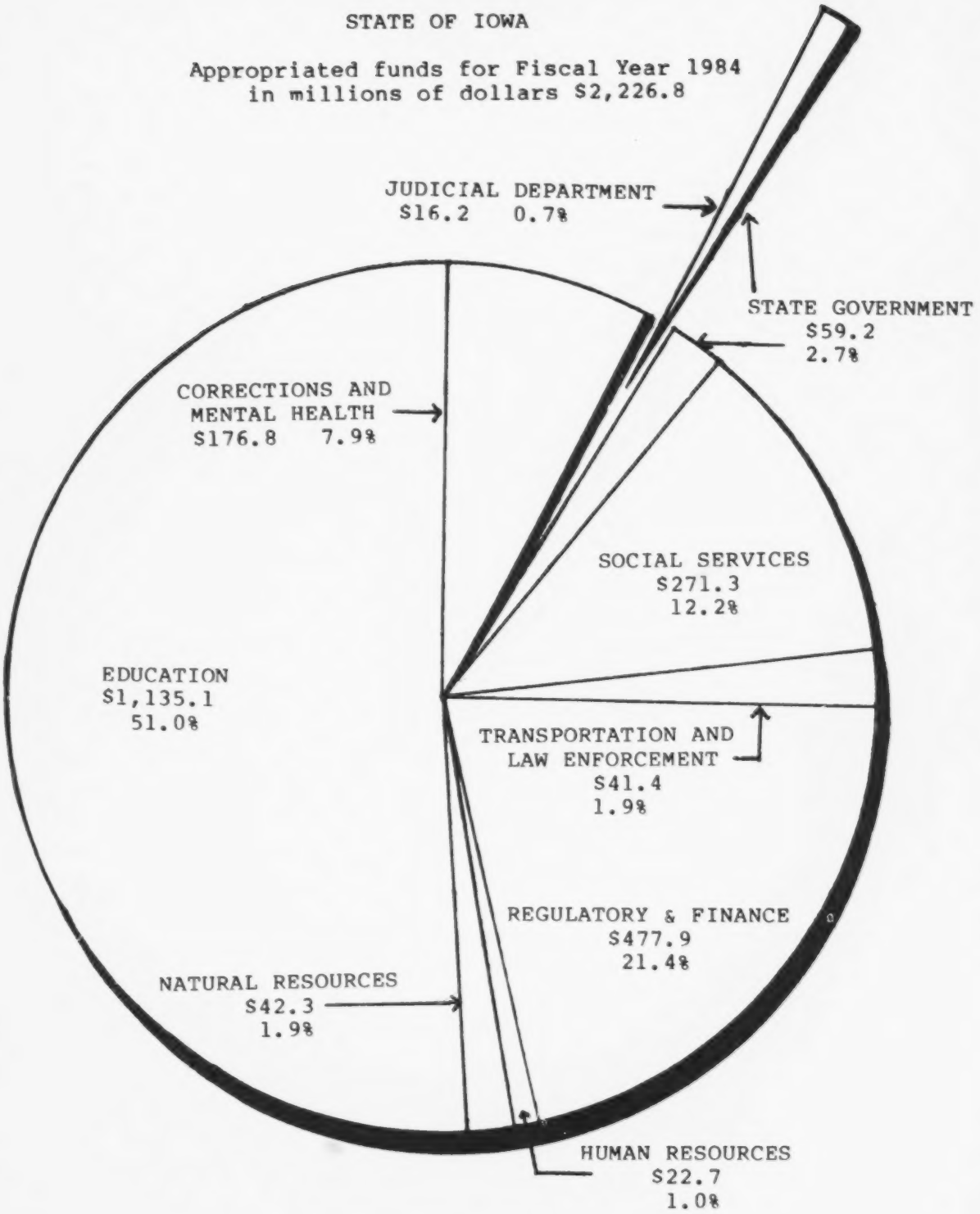
The 1983 Session of the 70th General Assembly appropriated $16,160,449 to finance the operation and administration of the trial and appellate courts in Iowa for fiscal year ending June 30, 1984. This figure includes appropriations for the supreme court, court of appeals, state court administrator's office, district court administration, Judicial Qualifications Commission, Board of Law Examiners, Board of Shorthand Reporters, jury fees and the salaries and travel expenses of all judicial officers. [Moneys funneled through the Judicial Department for Dispute Resolution Centers were not included in this figure.] The general fund appropriation for the judiciary represented 0.7 of one percent of the total state budget of $2,226,766,555.

As noted in Chart 2 on the following page, the major general fund appropriation categories and their share of the state's budget were: Education, 51.0 percent; Regulatory and Finance, 21.4 percent; Social Services, 12.2 percent; Corrections and Mental Health, 7.9 percent; State Government (including the Judicial Branch), 2.7 percent; Transportation and Law Enforcement, 1.9 percent; Natural Resources, 1.9 percent; and Human Resources, 1.0 percent.

CHART 2

STATE OF IOWA

Appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 1984
in millions of dollars $2,226.8



The cost of administering the Judicial Department is 0.7 of one percent of the total State General Fund Appropriation for FY 1984.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY CASES
TERMINATED BY FORMAL OPINION
SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1975-1983

YEAR	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	DISCIPLINARY	TOTAL
1983	301	149	5	455
1982	295	161	11	467
1981	208	171	4	383
1980	187	84	4	275
1979	202	81	7	290
1978	245	103	9	357
1977	252	118	4	374
1976	176	210	8	394
1975	229	143	6	378
TOTAL	2,095	1,220	58	3,373

a. Where two or more related cases were consolidated for purposes of decision-making and resolved by one court opinion, only one of the combined cases was counted in computing the total number of dispositions by opinion. In 1983, the 455 supreme court decisions involved 478 case filings.

b. The "civil" case category in this report includes appeals from final denials of post-conviction relief and all certiorari cases.

c. "Criminal" means direct appeals from final judgment in criminal cases.

d. Includes only the bar disciplinary proceedings disposed of by written opinion and published in the North Western Reporter.

TABLE 2

FORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA
AS CLASSIFIED BY MODE OF REVIEW -- 1980-1983

MODE OF REVIEW	NUMBER OF FORMAL DISPOSITIONS			
	1980	1981	1982	1983
Appeal from Final Order (judgment) in District Court				
Civil Case	149	145	233	217
Criminal Case	75	159	149	131
Original Certiorari				
Civil Case	4	6	5	7
Criminal Case	4	3	4	2
Appeal from Interlocutory Appeal	10	19	15	29
Discretionary Review of Small Claim	5	1	3	4
Certified Question of Law	2	3	6	4
Appeal in Post-Conviction Relief Proceeding	8	21	17	17
Lawyer Disciplinary	4	4	11	5
Further Review	10	15	15	23
Miscellaneous	4	7	9	16
Total Dispositions	275	383	467	455

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES DISPOSED OF
BY SUPREME COURT OPINION, 1977-1983

TYPE OF CASE	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
CIVIL							
Administrative law	27	40	54	31	23	41	56
Contracts	43	32	39	42	29	37	46
Contested child custody	11	12	9	10	14	13	16
Domestic relations not involving child custody	27	19	8	8	32	56	43
Post-conviction relief	9	9	8	8	21	17	17
Property	25	22	13	15	16	26	11
Taxation	14	7	5	4	4	5	7
Tort	54	45	33	34	33	46	55
Trust, estates, wills	11	10	5	9	7	9	10
Other	31	49	28	26	29	45	40
TOTAL CIVIL	252	245	202	187	208	295	301
CRIMINAL							
Guilty plea only	14	7	2	4	11	15	8
Sentencing only	14	11	14	9	19	23	30
Guilty plea and sentencing only	4	2	3	3	7	4	2
Other	86	83	62	68	134	119	109
TOTAL CRIMINAL	118	103	81	84	171	161	149
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS	4	9	7	4	4	11	5
TOTAL	374	357	290	275	383	467	455

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES: IN WORK[a], READY[b], ASSIGNED[c], AND OUT-TO-SUPREME COURT JUSTICES[d]
A COMPARISON OF CASELOADS
DECEMBER 31, 1981, 1982 AND 1983

	1981			1982			1983		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
IN WORK	491	362	853	590	311	901	593	290	883**
READY	200	34	234*	154	31	185*	110	51	161*
ASSIGNED	18	11	29	20	7	27	22	5	27
OUT-TO-JUSTICES	34	15	49	35	7	42	24	12	36
TOTAL	743	422	1,165	799	356	1,155	749	358	1,107

a. In Work -- All cases docketed which are not yet ready for submission.

b. Ready -- All cases ready for submission.

c. Assigned -- All cases which have been assigned to the justices and will be submitted or formally presented to the court within a month.

d. Out-to-Justices -- All cases submitted to the court which have not been decided.

*For purposes of this table, the 454, 531 and 548 cases transferred to the court of appeals in 1981, 1982 and 1983, respectively, were deducted from the number of ready cases pending before the supreme court.

**This figure includes 120 new cases (79 civil - 41 criminal) filed in the supreme court clerk's office during 1983 but not assigned a docket number as of December 31, 1983.

TABLE 5

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1975-1983

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			AVERAGE DELAY
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	
1983	6.8	3.8	3.7	5.5
1982	7.5	4.6	3.8	5.9
1981	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.2
1980	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.0
1979	5.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
1978	8.3	4.1	4.2	6.5
1977	17.0	4.3	4.5	12.2
1976	20.2	4.0	3.8	9.0
1975	14.6	3.3	4.7	9.0

TABLE 6

DISPOSITION OF CASES AT THE SUPREME COURT LEVEL BY ORDER OR OTHER MODE PRIOR TO FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE COURT - 1983

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
Voluntary dismissal or withdrawal of appeal or other review by appellant	282	83	365
Dismissal by the clerk pursuant to Rule 19, R. App. P., for failure to cure default within 15 days after notice	65	13	78
Dismissal by court for failure to comply with Rules of Appellate Procedure	--	--	--
Dismissal by court for lack of jurisdiction	4	--	4
Dismissal by court of frivolous criminal appeal pursuant to Rule 104, R. App. P.	2	99	101
Denial of petition for permission to appeal an interlocutory ruling	77	--	77
Denial of petition for writ of certiorari	21	5	26
Denial of petition for discretionary review	23	58	81
Cases transferred to the court of appeals by order of the supreme court	330	119	449
Consolidations*	7	16	23
Other	81	57	138
Totals	892	450	1,342

*For purposes of this table, cases were classified as consolidated at the time an order granting consolidation was filed.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY
CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT
EN BANC AND BY DIVISION, 1981-1983

	EN BANC			DIVISION			PERCENT EN BANC		
	1981	1982	1983	1981	1982	1983	1981	1982	1983
CIVIL	20	36	27	188	259	274	9.6%	12.2%	9.0%
CRIMINAL	8	13	2	163	148	147	4.6%	8.1%	1.3%
DISCIPLINARY	4	11	5	—	—	—	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL	32	60	34	351	407	421	8.3%	12.8%	7.5%

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRANSFERRED TO,
TERMINATED BY AND PENDING BEFORE THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1983

	TRANSFERRED			TERMINATED			PENDING END OF YEAR		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1983	330	119	449	405	150	555	65	19	84
1982	397	134	531	307	116	423	140	50	190
1981	305	149	454	348	163	511	50	32	82
1980	344	116	460	303	94	397	93	46	139
1979	263	114	377	259	120	379	52	24	76
1978	245	125	370	267	117	384	48	30	78
1977	330	95	425*	260	73	333	70	22	92
TOTAL	2,214	852	3,066	2,149	833	2,982	518	223	741

*Includes 69 cases — 56 civil and 13 criminal — transferred to the court of appeals in late 1976.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1983

TYPE OF CASE	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS						
	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
CIVIL							
Administrative law	15	21	13	33	36	44	56
Contracts	39	26	47	35	39	50	54
Contested child custody	23	50	35	44	63	51	84
Domestic relations not involving child custody	58	68	76	81	94	53	87
Post-conviction relief	7	7	8	10	16	12	29
Property	40	40	21	26	24	24	28
Taxation	4	4	2	3	4	4	3
Tort	52	30	25	34	35	33	28
Trust, estates, wills	13	3	13	14	13	13	16
Other	6	17	17	16	14	17	14
TOTAL CIVIL	257	266	257	296	338	301	399
CRIMINAL							
Guilty plea only	5	11	11	3	10	3	4
Sentencing only	2	5	9	7	12	9	6
Guilty plea and sentencing only	2	1	--	2	5	--	4
Other	63	99	100	82	136	102	135
TOTAL CRIMINAL	72	116	120	94	163	114	149
TOTAL	329	382	377	390	501	415	548

TABLE 10

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME
A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1983

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1983	6.3	5.0	5.2	5.7
1982	6.9	5.2	5.3	6.2
1981	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.5
1980	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
1979	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.9
1978	3.7	4.0	4.1	5.8
1977	16.1	4.6	4.6	12.5

TABLE 11

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED*
AT THE APPELLATE COURT LEVEL
1973-1983

	CIVIL*	CRIMINAL	TOTALS
1983	1,290	491	1,781
1982	1,253	596	1,849
1981	1,175	558	1,733
1980	1,081	539	1,620
1979	1,014	493	1,507
1978	1,003	487	1,490
1977	785	446	1,231
1976	737	439	1,176
1975	694	392	1,086
1974	594	362	956
1973	611	364	975
TOTALS	10,237	5,167	15,404

*Includes attorney disciplinary cases.

II. TRIAL COURT

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

The unified trial court, known as the "Iowa District Court," became operative July 1, 1973. The district court has general and original jurisdiction of all actions and proceedings, including probate and juvenile matters. Its jurisdiction is exercised by senior judges, district judges, district associate judges and judicial magistrates. The salary and travel expenses of all judges and magistrates are funded by the state.

The Unified Trial Court Act requires the clerks of the district court to furnish each judicial magistrate, associate judge, or district judge acting as a judicial magistrate, a docket in which to enter all proceedings within their jurisdiction, except those required to be docketed with the clerks and assigned to judicial officers for disposition. The chief judge of a judicial district is authorized to order criminal proceedings combined in a centralized docket.

Judicial Magistrates

The Unified Trial Court Act created and allotted 191 part-time judicial magistrate positions to the 99 counties in the state, ranging from one to six per county. The original allotment remained in effect until June 30, 1975. Since that date, the state court administrator has apportioned magistrates among the counties.

A judicial magistrate appointing commission selects the magistrates to fill the positions allotted to the county. The person appointed must be an elector of the county and able to serve a full term of office before reaching the mandatory retirement age of 72. Although a license to practice law is not required, the commission must first consider licensed attorneys. In counties allotted only one such position, the appointing commission is authorized to appoint an additional magistrate and divide the statutory salary. (Ida County exercised this option in 1983.) Part-time magistrates serve a two-year term of office commencing July 1 in odd-numbered years. The apportionment made in 1983 appears in Appendix E.

As amended, the Unified Trial Court Act authorizes any county with an allotment of three or more magistrate positions to appoint a district associate judge to substitute for three part-time magistrates. (Effective January 1, 1981, full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges.) The substitution is made by order of the chief judge of the judicial district on the affirmative vote of a majority of the district

judges in the judicial election district in which the county is located. District associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates are nominated, appointed and retained in the same manner as regular district associate judges. As they also have the same qualifications, rights, salary, duties, responsibilities, authority and jurisdiction as regular district associate judges, their work load is totally integrated in this report.

Jurisdiction

Judicial magistrates have jurisdiction of the following:

1. Preliminary hearing cases. [Cases in which they act as committing magistrates on felonies and indictable misdemeanors.] (R.Cr.P. 2(4)(a), The Code.)

2. Nonindictable or simple misdemeanors, including traffic and ordinance violations. [A simple misdemeanor is a criminal offense in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 30 days.]

3. First offense operating (driving) while intoxicated - OWI - where the defendant is represented by counsel and pleads guilty. The proceedings must be recorded by a court reporter.

4. Search warrant proceedings.

5. Emergency hospitalization proceedings. (Section 229.22, The Code.)

6. Lost property actions. [These include issuing a warrant directing a peace officer to appoint appraisers to fix the value of vessels, rafts, logs and lumber which have been stopped or taken up and determining the ownership of other lost property.] (Chapter 644.)

The above proceedings are all required to be entered in the docket furnished to them by the clerk or in the centralized docket for the county, if one is ordered to be maintained by the chief judge of the judicial district.

7. Small claims. [A small claim is a civil action (1) for a money judgment where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, exclusive of interest and costs, and (2) actions for forcible entry and detainer where no question of title to the property is involved.]

The act requires the clerk of the district court to maintain the docket for small claims actions. If the action is one for money judgment and it is not disposed of by the

clerk through entry of a confession of judgment, default judgment or a voluntary dismissal, it must be assigned to a judicial officer having jurisdiction of such actions. This is done by delivering the original notice first filed with the clerk to the officer. If it is an action for forcible entry and detainer, the appearance is required before the judicial officer who must handle the entire proceeding, including an order for the issuance of a writ of eviction if the plaintiff prevails. Again, the assignment is perfected by the clerk delivering the original notice first filed and all papers in the case to the judicial officer.

The record of all actions taken by the judicial officer in either type of small claims proceeding, including notes of testimony and judgment entry, is made on the original notice to which exhibits, if any, are attached and returned to the clerk. It serves as a calendar sheet from which the clerk makes proper entries in the small claims docket and on the lien index. Small claims actions are not entered in the docket furnished to judicial officers by the clerk or in the centralized docket used for criminal proceedings.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

The original act provided for 30 magistrates required to devote full time to their position. One to four positions were authorized to counties in four population categories ranging from 35,000 to over 200,000. The 25 municipal court judges holding office June 30, 1973, became district associate judges and satisfied the requirement of a regular full-time magistrate in the county of their residence. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal or nonretention of a district associate judge, a full-time magistrate was appointed to fill the vacancy. By the end of 1980, there were 17 regular full-time magistrates and nine substitute full-time magistrates.

As noted above, effective January 1, 1981, full-time and substitute full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges. (Chapter 1022, Acts of the 68th G.A., 1980 Session.) Full-time magistrates who became district associate judges in January 1981, and persons appointed to these positions on or before November 2, 1981, stood for retention in office in their judicial election district in 1982. Persons appointed to these offices after November 1, 1981, who could not complete a one-year initial term of office before the November 2, 1982, general election, will stand for retention at the 1984 general election and every four years thereafter.

In counties having only one district associate judge, the county judicial magistrate appointing commission is authorized to appoint an alternate district associate judge to act in the temporary absence of a district associate judge. Such alternate is paid on a per diem basis by the state for

days of actual service rendered. In 1982, an alternate district associate judge served in Marshall and Warren Counties.

The number of district associate judges by judicial election district and county is illustrated below.

Judicial Election District	County	District Associate Judges
1A	Dubuque	2
1B	Black Hawk	3
2A	Cerro Gordo	1
2B	Marshall	1
2B	Webster	1
2B	Story	2
3A	Dickinson	1
3B	Woodbury	3
4	Pottawattamie	3
5A	Jasper	1
5A	Polk	6
5A	Warren	1
6	Johnson	1
6	Linn	4
7	Clinton	1
7	Muscatine	1
7	Scott	3
8A	Wapello	1
8B	Des Moines	2
8B	Lee	1
	TOTAL	39

Jurisdiction

District associate judges have the same jurisdiction as judicial magistrates. In addition, they have jurisdiction of:

1. Civil actions for money judgments where the amount in controversy does not exceed $3,000;

2. Indictable (serious and aggravated) misdemeanors; and

3. Juvenile cases when designated as a judge of the juvenile court by the chief judge of the judicial district.

While exercising such additional jurisdiction, they are not only required to employ district judges' practice and procedure but, as the cases are docketed with the clerk of the district court, they must be assigned and delivered to the judge with a calendar sheet on which to report the disposition of the case.

Trial by Jury and Appeal Provisions

A defendant charged with a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor is entitled to a trial by a six-member jury if he or she files a written jury demand at least ten days before the time set for trial. Failure to make such demand constitutes a waiver of jury. The plaintiff may appeal only upon a finding of invalidity of an ordinance or statute and the defendant only upon a judgment of conviction. If the original action was tried by a lay-magistrate, the district or district associate judge shall try the case anew; a case tried by a district judge, district associate judge or judicial magistrate admitted to the bar is appealed to a district judge on the record. Either party may appeal from the judgment of the district judge to the supreme court in the same manner as from a judgment in a prosecution by indictment.

A small claims action is tried before the judicial officer to whom it is assigned without the right to a jury. Either party may appeal to a district court judge who is required to hear the matter on the record. If it appears the trial record is incomplete, the district court judge may take additional testimony and evidence. The right of either party to appeal from the judgment of the district judge is entirely within the discretionary power of the supreme court.

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

In January 1983, there were 99 district judges in Iowa. Under the judgeship formula computed in February 1983, 127 judgeships were authorized. However, the provisions of section 602.18, The Code, as amended, limited the maximum number of judgeships to 95. The latest computation of the judgeship formula (February 1984) authorized a total of 125 judgeships. The statutory formula and a copy of the application of the formula in 1983 and 1984 appear at pages 37 and 38 of this report.

For purposes of administration and ordinary judicial functions, the state is divided into eight judicial districts (Appendix D) and into 13 judicial election districts for purposes stated in the footnote to the map appearing on page 34. With 99 judges serving in the eight judicial districts, the population spread per judge ranged from 25,653 in the 5th District to 33,110 in the 3rd. [Appendix C]

Jurisdiction

District judges possess the full jurisdiction of the trial court, including the jurisdiction of judicial magistrates. While exercising the latter, they are required to employ the practice and procedure for judicial magistrates. Under the Iowa Probate Code they are the only judges sitting in probate.

Senior Judges

Effective July 1, 1979, the Sixty-eighth General Assembly established a senior judge program whereby retired supreme court justices, court of appeals judges, district court judges and district associate judges who qualify agree to work up to 13 weeks per year until age 78. The supreme court may not assign a senior judge judicial duties on a court superior to the highest court to which he or she was appointed prior to retirement. A senior judge may not be assigned to the court of appeals or the supreme court except to serve in the temporary absence of a member of that court. A senior judge may not practice law.

While serving on temporary assignment, a senior judge is paid no salary but continues to receive monthly judicial retirement annuities. The senior judge program provides a hedge against inflation by mandating an increase in judicial annuity whenever the current salary of active judges is raised. There is no provision for an increase in judicial annuity for judges who do not participate in the senior judge system.

During 1983, four supreme court justices -- M.L. Mason, C. Edwin Moore, Warren J. Rees and Clay LeGrand -- nine district court judges -- James E. Hughes, Lowell D. Phelps, John N. Hughes, Harold L. Martin, Nathan Grant, Paul E. Hellwege, Robert O. Frederick, Dale Missildine and R.K. Stohr -- and one district associate judge -- Ross Caniglia -- served as senior judges in Iowa. In this report, the work of these judges is combined with the caseload of the judicial officers with whom they worked.

Clerk of District Court

The clerk's office in the 99 counties performed two important functions during 1983 which reduced the work load of the judicial officers in each county. These were:

1. Kept the small claims docket and, through the entry of confessions of judgment, default judgments and voluntary dismissals in actions for a money judgment, avoided

the necessity of assigning many such cases to judicial officers. [Tables 12(d), 14(e) and 15]

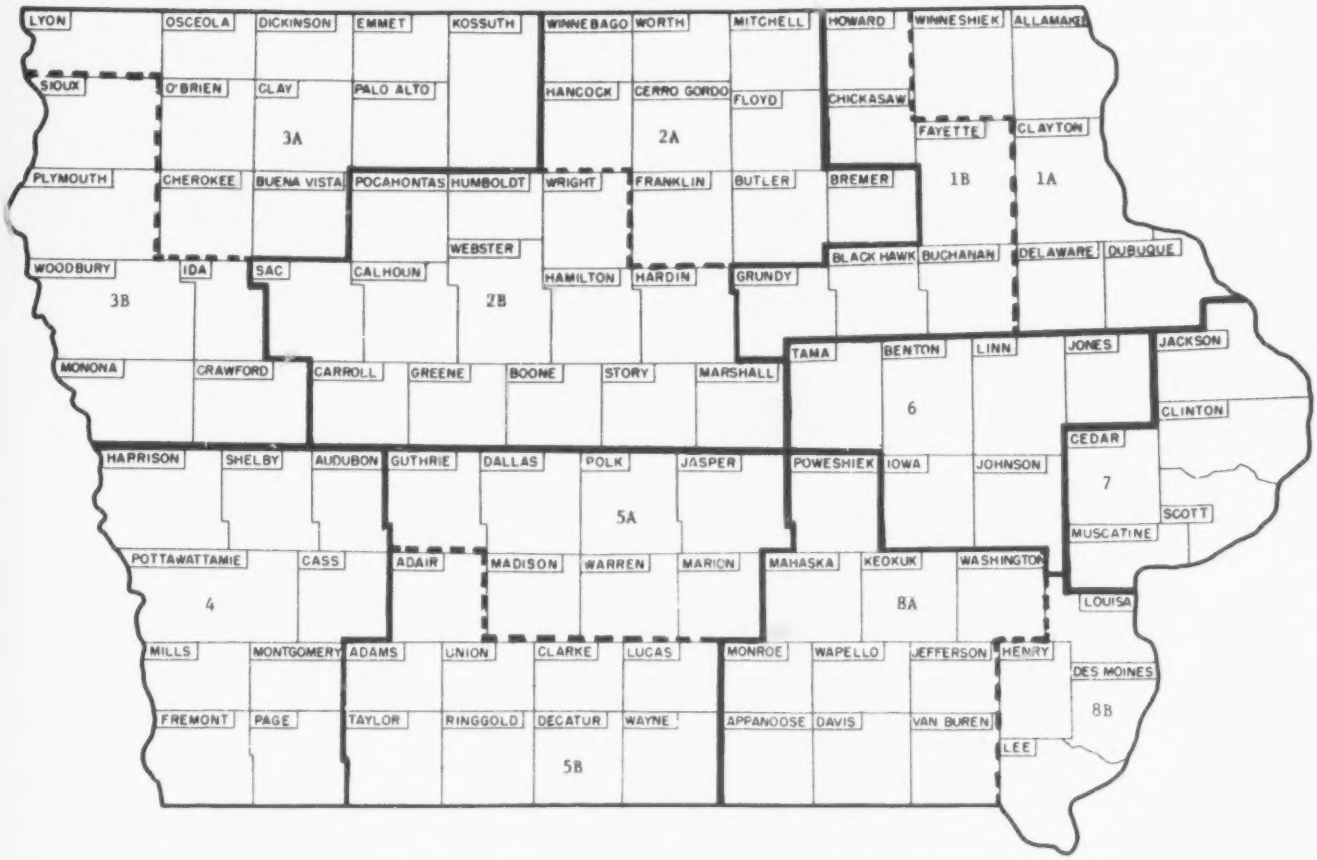
2. Maintained a traffic violations office where scheduled violations were admitted and disposed of upon payment of the minimum fine and costs before the time specified for appearance before the court on a uniform citation and complaint issued to the alleged violator. [Table 16]

Judgeship Formula

Subsections 2 through 10 of section 602.6201, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, relating to the determination of the number of judges in each of the 13 judicial election districts and the matter of filling judgeship vacancies, are as follows:

> 2. A district judge must be a resident of the judicial election district in which appointed and retained. Subject to the provision for reassignment of judges under section 602.6108, a district judge shall serve in the district of the judge's residence while in office, regardless of the number of judgeships to which the district is entitled under subsection 2 hereof.
>
> 3. The number of judgeships to which each of the judicial election districts is entitled is determined according to the following formula:
>
> > a. In an election district where the largest county contains two hundred thousand or more population, there is one judgeship per seven hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof. However, the seat of government is entitled to one additional judgeship.
> >
> > b. In an election district where the largest county contains eighty-five thousand or more population, but less than two hundred thousand, there is one judgeship per six hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.
> >
> > c. In an election district where the largest county contains forty-five thousand or more population, but less than eighty-five thousand, there is one judgeship per five hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

IOWA'S 8 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND 13 JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICTS



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* Judicial election districts are for the purpose of nomination, appointment and election of district judges, the application of the judgeship formula, the removal of judicial magistrates and the appointment and election of district associate judges.

d. In an election district where the largest county contains less than forty-five thousand population, there is one judgeship per four hundred seventy-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

e. Notwithstanding paragraph "a," "b," "c," or "d" of this subsection, each election district is entitled to not less than one judgeship for each forty thousand population

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or major fraction thereof contained in the election district.

f. The filings included in the determinations to be made under this subsection shall include juvenile court filings after July 1, 1985, shall not include small claims or nonindictable misdemeanors, and shall not include either civil actions for money judgment where the amount in controversy does not exceed three thousand dollars or indictable misdemeanors, which were assigned to district associate judges and judicial magistrates as shown on their administrative reports, but shall include appeals from decisions of judicial magistrates, district associate judges, and district judges sitting as judicial magistrates. The figures on filings shall be the average for the latest available previous three-year period and when current census figures on population are not available, figures shall be taken from the state department of health computations.

4. For purposes of this section, a vacancy means the death, resignation, retirement or removal of a district judge, or the failure of a district judge to be retained in office at the judicial election, or an increase in judgeships under this section.

5. In those judicial election districts having more district judges than the number of judgeships specified by the formula in subsection 3, vacancies shall not be filled.

6. In those districts having fewer or the same number of district judges as the number of judgeships specified by the formula in subsection 3, vacancies in the number of district judges shall be filled as they occur.

7. In those judicial districts that contain more than one judicial election district, a vacancy in a judicial election district shall not be filled if the total number of district judges in all judicial election districts within the judicial district equals or exceeds the aggregate number of judgeships to which all of the judicial election districts of the judicial district are authorized.

8. Vacancies shall not be filled in a judicial election district which becomes entitled to fewer

judgeships under subsection 3, but an incumbent district judge shall not be removed from office because of a reduction in the number of authorized judgeships.

9. During February of each year, and at other times as appropriate, the state court administrator shall make the determinations required under this section, and shall notify the appropriate nominating commissions and the governor of appointments that are required.

10. Notwithstanding the formula for determining the number of judgeships in this section, the number of district judges shall not exceed ninety-nine during the period commencing July 1, 1983 and ending as the general assembly shall specify.

THE APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.18, SUBSECTION 2, CODE OF IOWA (1981)

Based on (1) three-year Average Combined Filings (1980-82), with exclusions listed in section 602.18, subsection 2, The Code, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the Judicial Election District as appears in footnotes a, b, c and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire Election District, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	NUMBER BASED ON (1) ABOVE	NUMBER BASED ON (2) ABOVE	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS*	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[b]	3,339 (5.34)	170,760 (4.27)	5	4
1B[b]	6,510 (10.42)	227,266 (5.68)	10	8
2A[c]	3,986 (7.59)	171,826 (4.30)	8	5
2B[c]	7,460 (14.21)	328,417 (8.21)	14	11
3A[d]	3,280 (6.91)	158,404 (3.96)	7	5
3B[b]	4,714 (7.54)	195,975 (4.90)	8	5
4[b]	5,572 (8.92)	198,726 (4.97)	9	6
5A[a]	14,691 (20.26)	458,235 (11.46)	21[e]	17[e]
5B[d]	2,196 (4.62)	80,481 (2.01)	5	3
6[b]	8,238 (13.18)	330,504 (8.26)	13	11
7[b]	8,391 (13.43)	298,718 (7.47)	13	10
8A[d]	3,994 (8.41)	174,242 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	3,302 (6.29)	120,254 (3.01)	6	4
STATE TOTALS	75,673	2,913,808	127	95

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

*Although the 1983 computation of the judgeship formula created thirty-two (32) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.18, subsection 11, unnumbered paragraph 2, The Code, as amended by chapter 189, section 1, Acts of the 69th G.A., 1981 Session, limit the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-five (95) and, consequently, prohibits the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 9, 1983, by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319

THE APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.6201, SUBSECTION 3, 1983 IOWA CODE SUPPLEMENT

Based on (1) three-year Average Combined Filings (1981-83), with exclusions listed in section 602.6201, subsection 3, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the Judicial Election District as appears in footnotes a, b, c and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire Election District, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	NUMBER BASED ON (1) ABOVE	NUMBER BASED ON (2) ABOVE	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS*	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[b]	3,366 (5.39)	170,760 (4.27)	5	4
1B[b]	6,397 (10.24)	227,266 (5.68)	10	8
2A[c]	3,921 (7.47)	171,826 (4.30)	7	6
2B[c]	7,106 (13.54)	328,417 (8.21)	14	11
3A[d]	3,236 (6.81)	158,404 (3.96)	7	5
3B[b]	4,849 (7.76)	195,975 (4.90)	8	6
4[b]	5,611 (8.98)	198,726 (4.97)	9	6
5A[a]	14,156 (19.53)	458,235 (11.46)	21[e]	17[e]
5B[d]	2,218 (4.67)	80,481 (2.01)	5	4
6[b]	7,798 (12.48)	330,504 (8.26)	12	11
7[b]	8,067 (12.91)	298,718 (7.47)	13	10
8A[d]	3,948 (8.32)	174,242 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	3,180 (6.06)	120,254 (3.01)	6	5
STATE TOTALS	73,853	2,913,808	125	99

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

*Although the 1984 computation of the judgeship formula created twenty-six (26) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.6201, subsection 10, 1983 Iowa Code Supplement, limits the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-nine (99) and, consequently, prohibits the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 24, 1984, by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, IA 50319

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

For the purpose of the following discussion, regular civil cases include all law, equity and special proceedings docketed in the office of the clerk except in the small claims docket. An appeal from a decision of a judicial magistrate in a small claims action also is considered a regular civil case.

Regular criminal cases include all felony and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated). A felony is a public offense which is, or in the discretion of the court may be, punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, men's reformatory or women's reformatory. An indictable misdemeanor is a public offense, less than a felony, in which the punishment exceeds a fine of $100 or imprisonment for more than 30 days in the county jail. An appeal from a decision or verdict in a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor case becomes a regular criminal case when docketed by the clerk as a regular criminal action.

A total of 91,428 regular civil and criminal cases were docketed in the clerks' offices during 1983. This was a 3.5 percent decrease from the 94,771 civil and criminal cases docketed in 1982, and a 22.8 percent increase over the 74,440 cases docketed five years earlier in 1978. A comparison of cases docketed during 1982 and 1983 reveals that while criminal filings rose 2.4 percent (39,008 to 39,952) civil filings declined 7.7 percent (55,763 to 51,476).

A number of regular civil cases and indictable misdemeanors filed in district court were assigned to district associate judges, and substitute and alternate district associate judges for disposition. These three types of judicial officers mentioned above will hereafter be referred to as district associate judges. The total number of regular civil and indictable criminal dispositions by district and district associate judges and judicial magistrates amount to 94,159 -- an increase of 2.2 percent over the 92,141 cases disposed of in 1982. Due to the increase in dispositions, there were 2,731 less cases pending December 31, 1983, than on January 1 of that year; the number of pending cases increased in the 3rd, 4th, 6th and 7th judicial districts and decreased in the 1st, 2nd, 5th and 8th judicial districts. [Tables 1, 2(a) and 3(a)]

District Judges' Activities

During 1983, district court judges disposed of 52,706 regular civil cases: 389 or 0.7 percent by trial to jury,

5,098 or 9.7 percent by trial to court, and 47,219 or 89.6 percent without trial. The number of civil dispositions per judge ranged from 482 in the 6th District to 681 in the 4th. Statewide, there were 532 civil dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 2(a), (b) and (d)]

During 1983, district judges disposed of 19,815 regular criminal cases: 509 or 2.6 percent by trial to jury, 914 or 4.6 percent by trial to court and 18,392 or 92.8 percent without trial. The number of criminal dispositions per judge ranged from 143 in the 8th District to 256 in the 5th. Statewide, there were 200 criminal dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 3(a), (b) and (d)]

The average number of civil and criminal cases disposed of per judge (733), with the rank of each district, is shown on Table 10. The 4th District recorded the highest number of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (880) while the 6th District had the lowest number of dispositions per judge (653).

District Associate and Other Judges' Activities

There were 842 regular civil cases assigned to district associate judges during 1983 -- a 17.4 percent decrease from the 1,019 cases assigned in 1982. During 1983, the judges of limited jurisdiction disposed of 900 regular civil cases, 6 or 0.6 percent by trial to jury, 150 or 16.7 percent by trial to court, and 744 or 82.7 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 0 in the 4th and 6th Districts to 63 in the 1st. [Tables 2(a), (c) and (d)]

During 1983, 20,742 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and simple misdemeanors on appeal) were assigned to district associate judges and judicial magistrates (magistrates are authorized to accept guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases where the defendant has counsel and a court reporter records the proceedings) as compared to 18,777 assigned to such judges in 1982. Of the 20,738 criminal cases disposed of by district associate judges and judicial magistrates in 1983, 191 or 0.9 percent were resolved by trial to jury, 248 or 1.2 percent by trial to court, and 20,299 or 97.9 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 407 in the 8th District to 805 in the 6th. [Tables 3(a), (c) and (d)]

Civil and Criminal Filings by Case Type

Dissolution filings (and modifications) represented 32.4 percent (16,674) of the 51,476 civil cases docketed in the district court in 1983. [Table 4] These cases, combined with other actions involving domestic relations such as child support recovery (7,400) and domestic abuse (150), accounted

for nearly one half (47.1 percent) of all civil cases filed in the district court.

Table 4 also shows that 803 (3.3 percent) of the 24,556 small claims rulings by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction were appealed upon the record to the district court, pursuant to section 631.13, The Code. Such appeals comprised 1.6 percent of the civil case filings.

In the criminal area, the 16,027 first and second offense drunken driver cases (OWI--operating while intoxicated) embraced 51.8 percent of the indictable misdemeanor filings and 40.1 percent of all the regular criminal cases, i.e., felonies, indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated), and simple misdemeanors on appeal. [Table 5] Sixty percent of the OWI cases (9,569) were filed in the 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th Districts which contain the four largest metropolitan areas and 63 percent of the state's population.

The 8,160 felony filings represented 20.4 percent of the 39,952 criminal cases docketed. Only 0.4 of one percent (851) of the 228,617 simple misdemeanors handled by district associate judges and magistrates were appealed to the district court for a new trial, pursuant to rule 54, Rules of Criminal Procedure. Such appeals comprised 2.1 percent of the criminal filings.

Pending Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

Of the 50,470 regular civil cases pending at the end of the year, 12,293 or 24 percent were over 18 months old. During 1983, the number of civil cases pending over 18 months decreased by 84 or 0.7 percent. [Appendix A] The state average of cases pending over 18 months was 1,537; the 4th and 5th Districts had the lowest percentage of civil cases over 18 months. The proportion of pending civil cases over 18 months old ranged from 17 percent in the 5th District to 30 percent in the 6th. Except in the 4th Judicial District, there were fewer civil cases pending at the end of the year than at the beginning.

There were 601 fewer criminal cases pending on December 31, 1983, than 12 months earlier. Of the 19,307 regular criminal cases pending at the end of 1983, 4,906 or 25 percent were over 18 months old -- 38 percent (7,309) had been pending more than three months. [Appendix B] The 4th District had the highest percentage of cases pending over 90 days; the 3rd District had the lowest percentage of criminal cases over 90 days old.

Probate Matters

The district judges exercise the probate jurisdiction of the unified trial court. There were 847 trusteeships opened in 1983 -- down 9.1 percent from the previous year. [Table 6(a)] The number of trusteeships opened ranged from 51 in the 4th District to 150 in the 5th. During 1983, 4,045 guardianships and conservatorships were opened -- up 0.6 percent from 1982; the number of cases ranged from 281 in the 4th to 893 in the 5th. Some 19,341 decedent estates were opened in 1983 -- a decrease of 36 or 0.2 percent. The number of estates opened varied from 1,350 in the 4th District to 3,877 in the 2nd. Statewide, there were 6 jury trials and 663 trials to court in contested probate matters; the number of jury and court trials in 1982 was 13 and 222, respectively. [Table 6(a)]

Of the 16,731 estates closed during 1983, 55 percent were closed within one year, 34 percent from 1-3 years, and 11 percent after three years. The respective percentages for the 18,066 estates closed in 1982 were 52 percent, 34 percent and 14 percent. In 1983, 64 percent of the estates were settled within one year in the 1st District; in the 4th District only 46 percent of the estates were closed within a year. [Table 6(b)] The number of decedents' estates closed during 1983 was 2,610 less than the number of new estates opened. In 1982, there were 1,271 more estates opened than closed. [Table 6(a) and (b)]

Table 10 indicates the number of probate matters closed per judge in each district during 1983. The number of probate matters closed varied from 143 per judge in the 6th District to 263 per judge in the 3rd; the state average was 206.

Juvenile Matters

Juvenile matters are heard by district judges, judicial referees and district associate judges designated by the chief judge of the judicial district to act as judges of the juvenile court. There were 5,538 juvenile petitions filed in the district court clerks' offices during 1983 -- 175 more petitions than in 1982. [Table 7(a)] Juvenile petitions were classified into four general categories: delinquency (3,449), child in need of assistance or CHINA (2,012), family in need of assistance or FINA (45) and interstate compacts or extradition (32). Seventy-three percent of the FINA petitions were filed in the 1st and 5th Districts.

The number and type of formal hearings in juvenile matters are illustrated in Table 7(b). Figures show there were 3,456 adjudication hearings, 4,587 disposition hearings, 3,779 review hearings, 1,109 shelter/detention hearings and 2,928 other hearings, for a grand total of 15,859 -- up 1,266 from 1982. Over half of the juvenile hearings are handled by

district associate judges, more than 40 percent are conducted by referees and about 6 percent by district judges.

Termination of Parental Rights

For statistical purposes, termination of parental rights cases were separated from regular juvenile matters involving delinquent children and minors or families in need of assistance. As indicated in Table 8, there were 931 petitions for termination of parental rights filed in the district court during 1983 -- a decrease of 26 cases from 1982. Thirty-five percent (327) involved involuntary or contested proceedings. The largest number of termination cases (194) was docketed in the 5th District; the fewest petitions (67) were filed in the 4th District. There were 841 formal hearings held on these matters -- down 19 from 1982.

Hospitalization Hearings

Table 9 shows the number and type of hospitalization hearings. There were 4,000 hospitalization hearings in Iowa during 1983 -- 107 involuntary minor, 1,961 involuntary adult, 1,028 emergency and 904 substance abuse. The total number of hearings by type of judicial officer is noted in a footnote to Table 9.

General Activity of District Associate Judges

Other than regular civil and criminal cases, termination of parental rights and juvenile matters discussed above, a total of 133,252 cases were docketed or assigned and 139,255 cases were disposed of by the 39 associate judges during 1983. There were 44,711 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of cases docketed and assigned ranged from 3,774 in the 8th District to 58,889 in the 5th. The total number of simple misdemeanor/small claims cases pending at the end of the year varied from 534 in the 2nd District to 31,085 in the 5th. The number of each type of case filed, terminated and pending during 1983, appears in Tables 12(a) through 12(d).

As committing magistrates for indictable offenses, district associate judges conducted 18,363 initial appearance proceedings and 301 preliminary hearings in indictable criminal cases, pursuant to rule 2, Rules of Criminal Procedure. [Table 12(a)] Over half of the preliminary hearings and initial appearances were held in the 1st and 5th Districts.

There were 13,832 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) carried over from 1982. During 1983, 42,711 were docketed as compared to 47,136 in 1982 -- a decrease of 9.4 percent. Of the 46,660 state cases terminated during 1983, the judges disposed of 69 or 0.2 percent by trial to

jury, 1,830 or 3.9 percent by trial to court and 44,761 or 95.9 percent without trial. The number of simple misdemeanors pending at the end of 1983 (9,883) was 3,949 less than the number pending at the beginning of the year. During 1983, the associate judges of the 5th District had by far the largest number of nonindictable state cases docketed, terminated and pending. [Table 12(b)]

Some 36,465 ordinance cases were pending from 1982. During 1983, 58,127 were docketed and 60,116 were disposed of: 39 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 1,980 or 3.3 percent by trial to court and 58,097 or 96.6 percent without trial. The number of pending cases decreased by 1,989 to 34,476. [Table 12(c)]

During 1983, district associate judges entertained 361 search warrant applications and conducted 554 seized property hearings. Fifty-nine percent of the applications for search warrants handled by district associate judges occurred in the 1st, 5th and 7th Districts; over 64 percent of the seized property hearings occurred in the 1st District. [Table 14(d)] There were also 239 hospitalization hearings held by the 39 full-time judges of limited jurisdiction. [Table 9]

There were 12,692 small claims assigned and 12,657 cases terminated by associate judges during 1983. [Table 12(d)] The judges resolved 5,110 or 40.4 percent by trial to the court and 7,547 or 59.6 percent without trial. Of those disposed of without trial, 6,564 or 87.0 percent were defaulted and 983 or 13.0 percent were either dismissed or transferred. Over half of the small claims cases handled by such judges were assigned and disposed of in the 5th District.

Judicial Magistrates

In 1982, 152,328 cases were docketed or assigned to 165 judicial magistrates; they disposed of 152,713 or 926 cases per magistrate. [Table 13] Nearly 43 percent of the cases (65,401) were handled by the 57 magistrates in the 1st and 2nd Districts. The number of dispositions per magistrate ranged from 713 (3rd District) to 1,597 (1st District). Approximately 27 percent of the cases pending at the end of the year were in the 1st District. [Note: Judicial districts vary in population from 198,726 (4th) to 538,716 (5th) and in the number of magistrates from 13 (7th) to 34 (2nd).]

As shown in Table 14(a), there were 16,384 initial appearances and 959 preliminary hearings conducted by judicial magistrates in indictable cr'minal cases. While the largest number of such actions were in the 2nd District, magistrates in the 7th District had the fewest number of initial appearances and magistrates in the 6th District had the least number of preliminary hearings.

There were 73,734 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) docketed before judicial magistrates in 1983. [Table 14(b)] The magistrates disposed of 74,003 cases -- 156 or 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 6,979 or 9.4 percent by trial to court, and 66,868 or 90.4 percent without trial. The 2nd District had the most jury trials (29) while the 7th District reported the least (10). There were 15,131 nonindictable cases docketed in the 2nd District; only 3,424 were docketed in the 7th District. About half of the pending cases were found in the 1st, 2nd and 5th Districts.

Statistics on nonindictable ordinance cases disclose that 47,269 cases were docketed, 47,838 were disposed, and 3,687 were still pending on December 31, 1983. Ninety-two percent of the ordinance cases were disposed of without a contested trial to a judge or jury. The 23 magistrates in the 1st District handled 19,889 ordinance cases while the 19 magistrates in the 5th District disposed of 2,891. [Table 14(c)] Over 41 percent of the filings and dispositions and 57 percent of the pending cases were within the 1st District.

Overall, magistrates terminated 121,841 simple misdemeanors in 1983 compared to 134,274 in 1982. Over half of the simple misdemeanors handled by all judicial officers involved traffic matters.

Judicial magistrates entertained 779 applications for search warrants, conducted 407 seized property hearings and handled 3 lost property actions during 1983. [Table 14(d)] There were 761 search warrant applications and 544 seized property hearings before magistrates in 1982.

Statewide, for all judicial officers, the number of search warrant applications decreased 8.8 percent (1,400 to 1,277) while the number of seized property hearings fell 22.9 percent (1,321 to 1,019) since 1982. Magistrates in the 8th District received the largest number of search warrant applications (209), and magistrates in the 3rd District conducted the most seized property hearings (106). Considering the work of all judicial officers on these matters, the highest volume of applications for search warrants was in the 5th District; the 1st District had the highest number of seized property hearings.

As shown on Table 14(e), magistrates disposed of 11,899 small claims cases in 1983. Fifty-seven percent (6,823) of the small claims were tried before the court; the remaining 5,076 cases (3,831 defaults and 1,245 dismissals or transfers) were disposed of without a trial. The 2nd District had the largest number of small claims assigned to magistrates (2,886); the 7th District had the highest number of small

claims tried to court (1,511) and pending (573) before magistrates at the end of the year.

District Court Clerks

The 99 clerks of the district court played an important role not only in record keeping but in the handling of small claims (dismissals and defaults) and scheduled violations. As noted above, under the new Unified Trial Court Act, district court clerks are authorized to docket and assign small claims and enter dismissals and defaults. Cases involving forcible entry and detainer must be handled by a judge.

District court clerks also are responsible for handling scheduled violations in which the defendant mails in or delivers his or her admission, scheduled fine and $6.00 costs to the clerk's traffic violations office before the time specified on the citation and complaint for court appearance. In addition, clerks are the custodians of collection boxes used at weigh stations for the deposit of fines and costs in cases involving weight and other non-moving scheduled violations of commercial carriers.

Table 15 shows that more small claims were disposed of by clerks (43,017) than judges (24,556). While clerks in the 3rd District took care of over three-fourths of the small claims terminated in their district, in the 4th District they handled only 55.1 percent of the small claims dispositions. Overall, 63.7 percent of the small claims were disposed of by district court clerks.

As noted in Table 16, the district court clerks disposed of 415,711 scheduled violations without the attention or assistance of any judicial officer -- down 9,561 or 2.3 percent from 1982. On the average, a district court clerk disposed of 4,199 scheduled violations in 1983. The number of scheduled violations ranged from 243 in Ringgold County to 98,847 in Polk County.

Trial Court Statistics -- A Summary

There were 51,476 regular civil cases (over $2,000 and small claims on appeal) and 39,952 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors, felonies and simple misdemeanors on appeal) filed in the district court during 1983. This represented a 7.7 percent decrease in civil filings and a 2.4 percent increase in criminal filings since 1982. [Appendix F]

There was a total of 94,159 civil/criminal dispositions in 1983. While the number of civil cases terminated declined by 1,846 or 3.3 percent (55,452 to 53,606), the number of

criminal dispositions increased 10.5 percent (36,689 to 40,553) from 1982 figures. There were 396 jury trials and 5,248 court trials of civil cases; in criminal matters there were 700 jury trials and 1,162 court trials. Nearly 90 percent of the civil cases and 95.4 percent of the criminal cases were disposed of without trial.

There were 50,470 civil cases pending at the end of 1983 compared with 52,600 on January 1 -- a decrease of 2,130 or 4.0 percent. The number of pending criminal cases also decreased 3.0 percent (19,908 to 19,307). In all but the 4th District, there were fewer cases pending at the end of 1983 than at the beginning of the year. Of the cases pending statewide, 54 percent of the civil cases and 38 percent of the criminal cases were 3 to 18 months old; 24 percent of the civil cases (12,293) and 25 percent of the criminal cases (4,906) were over 18 months old. These figures represent a one-year decrease of 0.7 percent in the number of civil cases pending over 18 months and a 9.7 percent increase in the number of criminal cases pending over a year and a half.

In 1983, there were 733 civil/criminal dispositions per district judge -- 41 less than in 1982. [Appendix H] District court judges in the 4th District had the highest rate of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (880); in the 6th District the average number of dispositions was 653. [Table 10]

A review of the type of cases docketed in the district court shows that 47.1 percent of the 51,476 civil filings involve domestic relations -- dissolutions and modifications (16,674), uniform support actions (7,400), and domestic abuse (150). [Table 4] Parenthetically, the largest category of criminal cases was first and second offense OWI (operating while intoxicated). OWI comprised 40.1 percent or 16,027 of the 39,952 criminal filings. [Table 5] Appeals of simple misdemeanors (851) and small claims appeals (803) represented only 2.1 percent of the criminal filings and 1.6 percent of the civil filings, respectively. Statistically, only 0.4 percent of the 228,617 simple misdemeanors and 3.3 percent of the 24,556 small claims cases disposed of by judicial officers were appealed to the district court for a second ruling.

The number of probate matters opened increased slightly during 1983 -- 847 trusteeships, 4,045 guardianships and conservatorships, and 19,341 estates. Corresponding figures for 1982 were 932, 4,020, and 19,377, respectively. The number of estates closed dropped from 18,066 to 16,731; the percentage closed within a one-year period rose 55 percent.

There was a 3.2 percent increase in the number of juvenile petitions filed (5,363 to 5,532) compared with 1982

figures. The number of formal juvenile hearings increased 8.3 percent (14,593 to 15,805). Over half of the juvenile hearings were conducted by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction; more than two out of five were handled by referees; district judges were credited with less than 6 percent of the juvenile hearings. In addition to the regular juvenile cases, there were 931 petitions and 841 formal hearings involving termination of parental rights; there were 957 and 860 such matters the previous year.

The average district judge held 9 juvenile hearings, closed 206 probate matters, terminated 733 regular civil/criminal cases, and tried 70 contested civil/criminal cases during 1983.

There were 228,617 nonindictable state and ordinance cases disposed of in 1983 -- down 1.5 percent from the number (232,211) handled in 1982. Over 93 percent of the simple misdemeanor cases were disposed of without a contested trial. Judicial officers held 34,747 initial appearances in indictable criminal cases, conducted 1,260 preliminary hearings, entertained 1,277 applications for search warrants, conducted 1,019 seized property hearings, disposed of 11 lost property actions and handled 4,000 hospitalization hearings. Judicial officers disposed of 24,556 small claims actions while the clerks of the district court handled 43,017. There were 415,711 scheduled violations processed in the clerks' offices.

TABLE 1

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES[a] DOCKETED,
DISPOSED OF[b] AND PENDING IN 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982[c]

(Hereafter referred to as Regular Civil
and Criminal Cases)

DISTRICT[b]	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31	CHANGE IN PENDING
1	9,520	11,985	12,673	8,832	-688
2	10,591	12,992	13,807	9,776	-815
3	8,630	10,597	10,392	8,835	+205
4	3,909	6,996	6,797	4,108	+199
5	15,048	18,084	19,305	13,827	-1,221
6	9,222	11,330	11,207	9,345	+123
7	8,392	10,841	10,647	8,586	+194
8	7,196	8,603	9,331	6,468	-728
1983 Statewide	72,508[d]	91,428	94,159	69,777	-2,731
1982 Statewide	69,872	94,771	92,141	72,502	+2,630

a. Includes felonies and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and actions for money judgments, other than small claims, where the amount in controversy exceeds $2,000. Also includes simple misdemeanors and small claims appealed to the district court. Does not include juvenile or probate cases.

b. There were 14 senior judges, 99 district court judges, 39 district associate judges and two alternate district associate judges serving Iowa during all or part of 1983. In this report, the work of the senior judges is included in the terminations by district judges; similarly, the dispositions by alternate district associate judges are combined with the productivity of district associate judges.

c. See map showing districts and 1982 population, Appendix D.

d. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(a) REGULAR CIVIL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1983 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	7,139	6,675	256	315	6,722	7,037	6,777
2	8,037	7,610	28	28	8,225	8,253	7,394
3	5,836	5,806	189	192	5,739	5,931	5,711
4	3,214	4,132	—	—	4,086	4,086	3,260
5	11,773	10,409	187	166	10,460	10,626	11,556
6	5,606	5,187	—	—	5,302	5,302	5,491
7	5,385	6,114	91	96	6,151	6,247	5,252
8	5,610	5,543	91	103	6,021	6,124	5,029
1983 Statewide	52,600[b]	51,476	842	900	52,706	53,606	50,470
1982 Statewide	52,278	55,763	1,019	968	54,484	55,452	52,589

a. Includes the work of 39 district associate judges and two part-time alternate district associate judges. The nine district associate judges substituting for judicial magistrates served Polk (2), Dickinson, Story, Woodbury, Warren, Linn, Pottawattamie and Des Moines Counties during 1983; alternate district associate judges served in Marshall and Warren Counties. As substitute district associate judges have the same qualifications, jurisdiction and responsibilities as the other district associate judges, they are considered one and the same in these tables.

b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(b) REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1983
With Totals Compared to Those of 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	6,722	32	0.5%	393	5.8%	6,297	93.7%
2	17	8,225	55	0.6%	1,025	12.5%	7,145	86.9%
3	11	5,739	45	0.8%	374	6.5%	5,320	92.7%
4	6	4,086	31	0.8%	692	16.9%	3,363	82.3%
5	21	10,460	105	1.0%	902	8.6%	9,453	90.4%
6	11	5,302	53	1.0%	398	7.5%	4,851	91.5%
7	10	6,151	34	0.6%	686	11.1%	5,431	88.3%
8	11	6,021	34	0.6%	628	10.4%	5,359	89.0%
1983 Statewide	99	52,706	389	0.7%	5,098	9.7%	47,219	89.6%
1982 Statewide	95	54,484	440	0.8%	6,217	11.4%	47,827	87.8%

(c) REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1983
With Totals Compared to Those of 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	315	—	—	23	7.3%	292	92.7%
2	5	28	1	3.6%	14	50.0%	13	46.4%
3	4	192	2	1.0%	18	9.4%	172	89.6%
4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	8	166	1	0.6%	52	31.3%	113	68.1%
6	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	5	96	1	1.0%	25	26.0%	70	73.0%
8	4	103	1	1.0%	18	17.5%	84	81.5%
1983 Statewide	39	900	6	0.6%	150	16.7%	744	82.7%
1982 Statewide	39	968	9	0.9%	113	11.7%	846	87.4%

TABLE 2

(d) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	6,722	560	5	315	63
2	17	8,225	484	5	28	6
3	11	5,739	522	4	192	48
4	6	4,086	681	3	—	—
5	21	10,460	498	8	166	21
6	11	5,302	482	5	—	—
7	10	6,151	615	5	96	19
8	11	6,021	547	4	103	26
1983 Statewide	99	52,706	532	39	900	23
1982 Statewide	95	54,481	573	39	968	25

TABLE 3

(a) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1983 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	OTHER JUDGES* ASSIGNED TO	OTHER JUDGES* DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	2,381	5,310	2,637	2,934	2,702	5,636	2,055
2	2,554	5,382	2,508	2,527	3,027	5,554	2,382
3	2,794	4,791	2,178	2,068	2,393	4,461	3,124
4	695	2,864	1,607	1,520	1,191	2,711	848
5	3,275	7,675	3,287	3,299	5,380	8,679	2,271
6	3,616	6,143	4,110	4,024	1,881	5,905	3,854
7	3,007	4,727	2,796	2,737	1,663	4,400	3,334
8	1,586	3,060	1,619	1,629	1,578	3,207	1,439
1983 Statewide	19,908[a]	39,952	20,742	20,738	19,815	40,553	19,307
1982 Statewide	17,594	39,008	18,777	17,662	19,027	36,689	19,913

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

* Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and judicial magistrates who are authorized to accept guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases where the defendant has counsel and a court reporter records the proceeding. Magistrates disposed of 47 such cases in the 1st District, 653 in the 2nd, 1 in the 4th, 57 in the 7th and 1 in the 8th.

TABLE 3

(b) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1983
With Totals Compared to Those of 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	2,702	71	2.6%	192	7.1%	2,439	90.3%
2	17	3,027	71	2.4%	258	8.5%	2,698	89.1%
3	11	2,393	37	1.5%	54	2.3%	2,302	96.2%
4	6	1,191	19	1.6%	17	1.4%	1,155	97.0%
5	21	5,380	128	2.4%	122	2.3%	5,130	95.3%
6	11	1,881	45	2.4%	131	7.0%	1,705	90.6%
7	10	1,663	95	5.7%	82	4.9%	1,486	89.4%
8	11	1,578	43	2.7%	58	3.7%	1,477	93.6%
1983 Statewide	99	19,815	509	2.6%	914	4.6%	18,392	92.8%
1982 Statewide	95	19,027	605	3.2%	1,019	5.4%	17,403	91.4%

TABLE 3

(c) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY OTHER JUDGES*

Methods of Disposition During 1983
With Totals Compared to Those of 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	2,934	17	0.6%	12	0.4%	2,905	99.0%
2	5	2,527	50	2.0%	21	0.8%	2,456	97.2%
3	4	2,068	24	1.2%	60	2.9%	1,984	95.9%
4	3	1,520	14	0.9%	32	2.1%	1,474	97.0%
5	8	3,299	15	0.5%	17	0.5%	3,267	99.0%
6	5	4,024	28	0.7%	24	0.6%	3,972	98.7%
7	5	2,737	16	0.6%	13	0.5%	2,708	98.9%
8	4	1,629	27	1.7%	69	4.2%	1,533	94.1%
1983 Statewide	39	20,738	191	0.9%	248	1.2%	20,299	97.9%
1982 Statewide	39	17,662	170	1.0%	109	0.6%	17,383	98.4%

* Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and judicial magistrates who are authorized to accept guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases where the defendant has counsel and a court reporter records the proceeding. Magistrates disposed of 47 such cases in the 1st District, 653 in the 2nd, 1 in the 4th, 57 in the 7th and 1 in the 8th.

TABLE 3

(d) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES*		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	2,702	225	5	2,887	577
2	17	3,027	178	5	1,874	375
3	11	2,393	218	4	2,068	517
4	6	1,191	199	3	1,519	506
5	21	5,380	256	8	3,299	412
6	11	1,881	171	5	4,024	805
7	10	1,663	166	5	2,680	536
8	11	1,578	143	4	1,628	407
1983 Statewide	99	19,815	200	39	19,979	512
1982 Statewide	95	19,027	200	39	17,662	453

* The 759 indictable misdemeanor dispositions by judicial magistrates are not included in this table.

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1983
BY TYPE OF CASE WITH TOTALS
COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	DISSOLUTIONS	UNIFORM SUPPORT	DOMESTIC ABUSE	OTHER EQUITY AND LAW	SMALL CLAIMS APPEALS	TOTAL
1	1,742 (1,802)	1,417 (1,624)	9 (13)	3,402 (3,497)	105 (101)	6,675 (7,037)
2	2,530 (2,674)	1,225 (1,475)	17 (12)	3,714 (3,982)	124 (110)	7,610 (8,253)
3	1,675 (1,676)	976 (1,027)	50 (35)	3,003 (3,098)	102 (95)	5,806 (5,931)
4	1,375 (1,423)	951 (848)	1 (2)	1,747 (1,762)	58 (51)	4,132 (4,086)
5	3,392 (3,525)	497 (536)	19 (19)	6,312 (6,336)	189 (210)	10,409 (10,626)
6	1,933 (1,864)	427 (480)	9 (18)	2,731 (2,872)	87 (68)	5,187 (5,302)
7	2,173 (2,453)	1,158 (927)	12 (12)	2,710 (2,792)	61 (63)	6,114 (6,247)
8	1,854 (1,985)	749 (987)	33 (28)	2,830 (3,046)	77 (78)	5,543 (6,124)
1983 Statewide	16,674 (17,402)	7,400 (7,904)	150 (139)	26,449 (27,385)	803 (776)	51,476 (53,606)
1982 Statewide	17,164 (17,620)	8,343 (8,355)	130 (99)	29,278 (28,494)	848 (884)	55,763 (55,452)

Legend: Dissolutions — original actions and modifications.
Uniform Support — actions pursuant to the Uniform Support of Dependents Law. (URESA), Chapter 252A, The Code.

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1983 BY CASE TYPE
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	OWI (1st/2nd)		OTHER INDICTABLE MISDEMEANORS		FELONIES		SIMPLE MISDEMEANOR APPEALS		TOTAL	
1	1,997	(2,207)	2,247	(2,340)	947	(971)	119	(118)	5,310	(5,636)
2	2,166	(2,221)	2,008	(2,020)	1,064	(1,144)	144	(169)	5,382	(5,554)
3	2,206	(2,084)	1,538	(1,462)	985	(835)	62	(80)	4,791	(4,461)
4	1,054	(989)	1,196	(1,131)	529	(497)	85	(94)	2,864	(2,711)
5	3,047	(3,877)	2,845	(3,213)	1,629	(1,384)	154	(205)	7,675	(8,679)
6	2,657	(2,594)	2,097	(2,030)	1,237	(1,145)	152	(136)	6,143	(5,905)
7	1,868	(1,731)	1,903	(1,772)	914	(842)	42	(55)	4,727	(4,400)
8	1,032	(1,048)	1,080	(1,138)	855	(911)	93	(110)	3,060	(3,207)
1983 Statewide	16,027	(16,751)	14,914	(15,106)	8,160	(7,729)	851	(967)	39,952	(40,553)
1982 Statewide	15,712	(15,394)	14,226	(12,889)	8,064	(7,227)	1,006	(1,179)	39,008	(36,689)

Legend: OWI — operating while intoxicated.

Other indictable misdemeanors — includes serious and aggravated misdemeanors other than OWI.

TABLE 6

(a) PROBATE MATTERS

NUMBER OPENED AND TRIALS ON CONTESTS DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TRUSTEESHIPS OPENED	GUARDIANSHIPS & CONSERVATORSHIPS OPENED	ESTATES OPENED	TRIALS TO JURY	TRIALS TO COURT
1	12	119	471	2,466	—	5
2	17	144	617	3,877	—	32
3	11	141	539	2,452	—	20
4	6	51	281	1,350	1	23
5	21	150	893	3,025	1	10
6	11	101	409	2,306	—	509
7	10	55	390	1,586	—	23
8	11	86	445	2,279	4	41
1983 Statewide	99	847	4,045	19,341	6	663
1982 Statewide	95	932	4,020	19,377	13	222

TABLE 6

(b) DECEDENTS' ESTATES CLOSED

NUMBER CLOSED DURING 1983 AND AGE AT TIME OF CLOSING
WITH TOTALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	ESTATES CLOSED	PERCENT WITHIN 1 YEAR	PERCENT FROM 1-3 YEARS	AFTER 3 YEARS
1	2,334	64%	28%	8%
2	3,440	52%	38%	10%
3	2,374	54%	36%	10%
4	1,222	46%	35%	19%
5	2,573	60%	31%	9%
6	1,306	49%	41%	10%
7	1,374	51%	25%	24%
8	2,108	56%	35%	9%
1983 Statewide	16,731	55%	34%	11%
1982 Statewide	18,066	52%	34%	14%

* In addition, there were 469 trusteeships and 3,158 guardianships and conservatorships closed in 1983.

TABLE 7

(a) NUMBER AND TYPE OF JUVENILE PETITIONS

FILED DURING 1983 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	DELINQUENCY	CHINA	FINA	IC	TOTAL
1	270	173	20	—	463
2	390	323	2	—	715
3	529	161	3	1	694
4	254	178	—	1	433
5	608	410	13	17	1,048
6	464	249	1	—	714
7	485	274	5	12	776
8	449	244	1	1	695
1983 Statewide	3,449	2,012	45	32	5,538
1982 Statewide	3,454	1,816	67	26	5,363

Legend: CHINA — Child in need of assistance.
FINA — Family in need of assistance.
IC —— Interstate compacts (extradition).
(For definition of these terms, see section 232.2, The Code.)

TABLE 7

(b) NUMBER OF FORMAL HEARINGS

IN JUVENILE MATTERS DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	ADJUDICATION	DISPOSITION	REVIEW	D/S	OTHER	TOTAL
1	385	398	413	86	273	1,555
2	330	778	367	72	742	2,289
3	413	365	498	97	368	1,741
4	401	295	363	105	110	1,274
5	829	1,059	482	148	78	2,596
6	446	686	820	302	939	3,193
7	316	586	228	218	214	1,562
8	336	420	608	81	204	1,649
1983 Statewide	3,456	4,587	3,779	1,109	2,928	15,859
1982 Statewide	2,962	4,107	3,317	1,249	2,958	14,593

Legend: Adjudication hearing — Section 232.2(2), The Code.
Disposition hearing — Section 232.2(16), The Code.
Review hearing — Section 212.102(6), The Code.
D/S - Detention/Shelter hearing — Section 232.2(14)(46), The Code.
Other — Includes such proceedings as: hearings on motions for change of venue and placement, motions for evaluation, change of counsel, motions to continue or suppress evidence and contempt of court and probation violation hearings.

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED AND NUMBER AND TYPE
OF FORMAL HEARINGS HELD IN CASES INVOLVING
VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION
OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, 1983

DISTRICT		NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED	NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS		
			TRIAL DETERMINATION	REVIEW	TOTAL
1	V*	95	87	4	91
	I**	39	34	7	41
2	V	84	54	5	59
	I	52	47	7	54
3	V	106	64	5	69
	I	22	23	1	24
4	V	25	21	1	22
	I	42	22	4	26
5	V	55	37	—	37
	I	139	137	12	149
6	V	102	87	22	109
	I	9	10	10	20
7	V	80	59	—	59
	I	11	11	1	12
8	V	57	42	10	52
	I	13	17	—	17
1983 Statewide Totals	V	604	451	47	498
	I	327	301	42	343
		931	752	89	841

*V — Voluntary or uncontested termination proceeding.
**I — Involuntary or contested termination proceeding.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOSPITALIZATION HEARINGS DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	INVOLUNTARY MINOR	INVOLUNTARY ADULT	EMERGENCY	SUBSTANCE ABUSE	TOTAL
1	16	245	238	262	761
2	8	339	214	134	695
3	6	219	67	72	364
4	—	109	65	16	190
5	8	367	63	103	541
6	39	292	134	216	681
7	23	216	169	53	461
8	7	174	78	48	307
1983 Statewide	107	1,961	1,028	904	4,000
1982 Statewide	122	1,734	975	728	3,559

District judges handled 13 involuntary hospitalization of a minor hearings (sec. 229.2, The Code), 117 involuntary adult hearings (sec. 229.12), 41 emergency hearings and 43 substance abuse hearings. District associate judges held 4, 9, 204 and 22 such hearings, respectively. Magistrates conducted 12 involuntary adult hearings, 408 emergency hospitalization hearings and 21 substance abuse hearings. Hospitalization referees held 90 involuntary minor, 1,823 involuntary adult, 375 emergency and 818 substance abuse hearings.

TABLE 10

COMPARISON OF TOTAL 1983 CASELOAD PER DISTRICT JUDGE
WITH RANK OF DISTRICT IN EACH CATEGORY
SHOWN IN PARENTHESIS
(Adjusted to the nearest whole case or matter.)

DISTRICT	JUDGES	REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES (Per Judge) DISPOSED OF[a]		PROBATE MATTERS (Per Judge) CLOSED[b]		JUVENILE MATTERS (Per Judge) HEARINGS[c]	
1	12	785	(2)	229	(4)	2	(6)
2	17	662	(7)	236	(3)	19	(1)
3	11	739	(5)	263	(1)	0	(8)
4	6	880	(1)	248	(2)	6	(3)
5	21	754	(4)	160	(7)	17	(2)
6	11	653	(8)	143	(8)	5	(4)
7	10	781	(3)	180	(6)	4	(5)
8	11	691	(6)	224	(5)	1	(7)
1983 Statewide	99	733		206		9	
1982 Statewide	95	774		232		14	

a. Computed from the sum of such cases disposed of by district court judges as shown by Tables 2(b) and 3(b).
b. Includes trusteeships, guardianships, conservatorships and estates closed in the district court.
c. Includes various types of juvenile hearings in cases involving delinquency, child and/or family assistance and interstate compacts. Does not include hearings in termination of parental rights cases.

TABLE 11

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES ON MATTERS
OTHER THAN REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES,
TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND JUVENILE CASES
1983

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	5	1,502	13,822	14,158	1,166
2	5	814	7,806	8,086	534
3	4	1,226	10,030	10,082	1,174
4	3	1,496	5,044	5,209	1,331
5	8	35,926	58,889	63,730	31,085
6	5	5,542	20,730	20,141	6,131
7	5	3,501	13,257	14,093	2,665
8	4	607	3,774	3,756	625
1983 Statewide	39	50,614	133,352	139,255	44,711
1982 Statewide	39	49,461	128,698	127,545	50,614

a. Includes nonindictable (simple) misdemeanors, lost property actions, small claims, initial appearances, preliminary hearings, search warrant applications and seized property and hospitalization hearings. Pending figures include misdemeanors and small claims only.

Note: For complete and detailed information on the various types of cases combined in this table, see Tables 12(a) through 12(d), 14(d) and 9.

TABLE 12

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[a]

1983 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	NUMBER OF PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	5	1,259	—
2	5	1,073	10
3	4	1,102	—
4	3	—	—
5	8	5,514	191
6	5	5,929	36
7	5	2,807	5
8	4	679	59
1983 Statewide	39	18,363	301
1982 Statewide	39	14,519	243

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 12

(b) NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1983 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
						GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	1,106	4,106	12	118	3,007	1,175	900
2	5	310	2,389	12	163	1,862	410	252
3	4	765	3,847	1	275	2,464	1,131	741
4	3	1,219	2,949	1	91	2,223	880	973
5	8	5,410	16,662	21	554	10,054	8,942	2,501
6	5	2,211	5,880	8	323	3,845	1,523	2,392
7	5	2,433	5,733	12	289	4,346	1,755	1,764
8	4	378	1,145	2	17	754	390	360
1983 Statewide	39	13,832	42,711	69	1,830	28,555	16,206	9,883
1982 Statewide	39	10,298	47,136	100	1,924	29,173	12,405	13,832

TABLE 12

(c) NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1983 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	340	6,526	3	218	4,542	1,914	189
2	5	494	3,639	3	147	3,244	479	260
3	4	437	4,472	1	318	3,258	914	418
4	3	221	995	5	16	662	247	286
5	8	30,512	30,056	8	395	15,780	15,802	28,583
6	5	3,164	6,815	5	404	5,168	828	3,574
7	5	1,068	4,353	13	462	3,094	951	901
8	4	229	1,271	1	20	988	226	265
1983 Statewide	39	36,465	58,127	39	1,980	36,736	21,361	34,476
1982 Statewide	39	38,868	51,932	32	3,142	36,785	14,376	36,465

TABLE 12

(d) SMALL CLAIMS

1983 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	56	1,467	512	699	235	77
2	5	10	595	360	183	40	22
3	4	24	566	185	341	49	15
4	3	56	1,070	525	437	92	72
5	8	4	6,381	1,825	4,252	307	1
6	5	167	1,911	1,432	229	252	165
7	5	—	166	166	—	—	—
8	4	—	536	105	423	8	—
1983 Statewide	39	317	12,692	5,110	6,564	983	352
1982 Statewide	39	295	13,266	3,616	7,808	1,820	317

TABLE 13

TOTAL ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	MAGISTRATES ACTUAL[a]	(AUTHORIZED)	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED[b]	DISPOSED	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	23	(23)	4,252	36,162	36,742	3,672
2	34	(37)	1,678	28,732	28,659	1,751
3	26[c]	(31)	1,482	18,598	18,542	1,538
4	16	(19)	953	12,333	12,475	811
5	19[c]	(27)	1,746	15,513	15,812	1,447
6	14	(17)	1,047	15,198	15,042	1,203
7	13	(13)	1,335	9,175	8,792	1,718
8	21	(24)	1,433	16,617	16,649	1,401
1983 Statewide	166	(191)	13,926[e]	152,328	152,713	13,541
1982 Statewide	166	(191)	15,651	161,691	163,144	14,198

a. The 1983 figures indicate the actual number of judicial magistrates serving in each district; figures in parenthesis show the number of magistrate positions authorized. See footnote a, Table 2(a) for counties using substitute district associate judges and Appendix E for the July 1, 1982, allocation of magistrates. The 1983 activity of district associate judges substituting for magistrates is included in the work load of regular district associate judges as illustrated in Table 11 rather than the business of magistrates presented in this table.

b. For purposes of this table, all search warrant applications, seized property hearings, lost property actions, preliminary hearings, initial appearances and hospitalization hearings docketed in 1983 were considered disposed of by the end of the year. Pending figures refer only to small claims and simple misdemeanors (nonindictable state and ordinance cases).

c. During 1983, Ida County exercised the option provided in section 602.58, The Code, and divided its one magistrate position into two jobs leaving 165 magistrates to fill 164 salaried positions.

e. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1983 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	1,993	133
2	3,812	226
3	2,243	93
4	1,102	133
5	1,757	152
6	2,642	16
7	325	63
8	2,510	143
1983 Statewide	16,384	959
1982 Statewide	14,027	1,137

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 14

(b) NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1983 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	1,757	13,241	15	820	9,000	3,618	1,545
2	1,315	15,131	29	1,952	9,988	3,229	1,248
3	1,197	9,759	13	753	6,755	2,200	1,235
4	549	6,950	15	584	4,708	1,550	642
5	1,563	9,771	24	891	7,533	1,578	1,308
6	830	6,952	28	830	4,757	1,234	933
7	781	3,424	10	382	2,243	763	807
8	1,070	8,506	22	767	6,144	1,568	1,075
1983 Statewide	9,062[a]	73,734	156	6,979	51,128	15,740	8,793
1982 Statewide	9,293	79,323	162	7,590	55,018	16,561	9,285

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(c) NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1983 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL: GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL: DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	2,482	19,505	9	780	12,906	6,194	2,098
2	221	6,339	14	713	4,816	698	319
3	223	4,738	3	360	3,695	693	210
4	357	3,337	4	298	2,660	582	150
5	142	2,864	10	611	1,808	462	115
6	153	4,169	2	486	3,203	426	205
7	375	2,769	1	367	2,006	432	338
8	303	3,548	3	326	2,727	543	252
1983 Statewide	4,256	47,269	46	3,941	33,821	10,030	3,687
1982 Statewide	5,624	53,607	39	4,182	39,828	10,894	4,288

TABLE 14

(d) SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS AND SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER

1983 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS				SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS			
	DJ	DAJ	JM	TOTAL	DJ	DAJ	JM	TOTAL
1	43	54	60	157	—	358	72	430
2	4	27	154	185	1	1	48	50
3	4	36	115	155	—	—	106	106
4	1	17	86	104	—	13	65	78
5	68	82	100	250	57	—	12	69
6	3	40	41	84	—	119	15	134
7	9	77	14	100	—	6	13	19
8	5	28	209	242	—	57	76	133
1983 Statewide	137	361	779	1,277	58	554	407	1,019
1982 Statewide	157	482	761	1,400	14	763	544	1,321

Legend: DJ — District court judges.
DAJ — District associate judges.
JM — Judicial magistrates.

There were also 3 lost property actions — one each in the Second, Third and Eighth Districts handled by magistrates and eight such actions disposed of by district associate judges in the Seventh District in 1983.

TABLE 14

(e) SMALL CLAIMS

1983 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
				DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	13	1,035	621	266	132	29
2	142	2,886	1,349	1,233	262	184
3	62	1,513	842	490	150	93
4	47	631	328	292	39	19
5	41	828	650	136	59	24
6	64	1,353	717	459	176	65
7	179	2,551	1,511	385	261	573
8	60	1,555	805	570	166	74
1983 Statewide	608[a]	12,352	6,823	3,831	1,245	1,061
1982 Statewide	734	11,925	6,839	3,937	1,258	625

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 15

SMALL CLAIMS DOCKET MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK DURING 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY		PENDING DECEMBER 31
			CLERK	JUDICIAL OFFICERS[a]	
1	1,212	8,072	5,690	2,465	1,129
2	1,611	10,076	6,653	3,427	1,607
3	1,084	8,472	6,294	2,057	1,205
4	585	3,879	2,103	1,713	648
5	3,714	16,699	9,911	7,229	3,273
6	1,140	7,229	4,080	3,265	1,024
7	1,124	6,409	4,112	2,323	1,098
8	1,185	6,462	4,174	2,077	1,396
1983 Statewide	11,655[b]	67,298	43,017	24,556	11,380
1982 Statewide	13,442	67,967	44,478	25,278	11,653

a. Includes small claims dispositions by magistrates and judges.

b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1982, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS[a]

Handled Exclusively by the District Court Clerks (per county)

County	Number 1983	Number 1982	County	Number 1983	Number 1982
Adair	1,218	1,451	Jefferson	2,022	1,630
Adams	646	535	Johnson	15,039	14,098
Allamakee	1,215	1,061	Jones	1,526	1,476
Appanoose	944	1,220	Keokuk	343	364
Audubon	733	770	Kossuth	1,150	1,442
Benton	3,195	2,900	Lee	3,404	3,546
Black Hawk	12,878	15,003	Linn	16,595	17,426
Boone	2,563	1,836	Louisa	1,249	986
Bremer	2,525	3,005	Lucas	932	1,086
Buchanan	3,081	3,722	Lyon	1,067	968
Buena Vista	2,600	2,926	Madison	1,195	1,093
Butler	1,671	1,482	Mahaska	2,449	3,012
Calhoun	637	599	Marion	4,039	3,387
Carroll	3,434	4,255	Marshall	3,941	4,003
Cass	2,673	2,742	Mills	3,046	1,981
Cedar	15,085	13,348	Mitchell	944	889
Cerro Gordo	8,064	6,658	Monona	1,399	2,162
Cherokee	1,321	1,433	Monroe	1,128	1,181
Chickasaw	2,190	2,417	Montgomery	1,202	1,168
Clarke	6,006	6,052	Muscatine	4,147	4,223
Clay	2,564	2,729	O'Brien	1,621	1,807
Clayton	3,060	2,264	Osceola	772	886
Clinton	6,435	3,877	Page	1,034	975
Crawford	1,825	2,268	Palo Alto	1,194	1,531
Dallas	3,851	5,142	Plymouth	3,546	3,033
Davis	1,375	1,238	Pocahontas	768	648
Decatur	2,199	2,150	Polk	98,847	98,519
Delaware	3,398	3,380	Pottawattamie	14,454	16,226
Des Moines	3,457	2,708	Poweshiek	2,737	2,735
Dickinson	2,557	2,664	Ringgold	243	257
Dubuque	4,997	6,303	Sac	1,869	2,097
Emmet	1,111	907	Scott	22,394	25,551
Fayette	3,933	4,381	Shelby	1,622	1,528
Floyd	1,757	1,847	Sioux	2,438	2,755
Franklin	3,140	2,792	Story	5,961	5,907
Fremont	1,959	2,215	Tama	2,743	2,617
Greene	1,385	1,266	Taylor	530	293
Grundy	1,300	1,058	Union	1,907	2,131
Guthrie	611	554	Van Buren	492	417
Hamilton	3,381	4,311	Wapello	5,131	3,817
Hancock	1,169	2,113	Warren	4,066	4,064
Hardin	3,149	3,267	Washington	2,247	2,084
Harrison	3,603	3,297	Wayne	1,093	1,009
Henry	2,449	3,018	Webster	3,324	3,163
Howard	809	716	Winnebago	662	469
Humboldt	712	570	Winneshiek	1,595	1,405
Ida	1,073	1,078	Woodbury	11,732	16,725
Iowa	4,416	3,024	Worth	4,687	5,360
Jackson	2,027	2,006	Wright	873	610
Jasper	4,344	4,016			
			TOTALS	418,124	425,272

a. Scheduled violations are defined in section 805.8, The Code.

APPENDIX A

NUMBER AND AGE OF CIVIL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT) 90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	6,777	1,797 (26%)	3,243 (48%)	1,737 (26%)
2	7,394	1,773 (24%)	3,821 (52%)	1,800 (24%)
3	5,711	1,059 (19%)	3,054 (53%)	1,598 (28%)
4	3,260	727 (22%)	1,831 (56%)	702 (22%)
5	11,556	2,642 (23%)	6,899 (60%)	2,015 (17%)
6	5,491	975 (18%)	2,846 (52%)	1,670 (30%)
7	5,252	1,004 (19%)	2,727 (52%)	1,521 (29%)
8	5,029	1,031 (20%)	2,748 (55%)	1,250 (25%)
1983 Statewide	50,470	11,008 (22%)	27,169 (54%)	12,293 (24%)
1982 Statewide	52,589	11,558 (22%)	28,654 (54%)	12,377 (24%)

a. Includes civil cases above a small claim and small claims on appeal.

APPENDIX B

NUMBER AND AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1983
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1982

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	2,055	858 (42%)	667 (32%)	530 (26%)
2	2,382	903 (38%)	824 (35%)	655 (27%)
3	3,124	790 (25%)	1,143 (37%)	1,191 (38%)
4	848	580 (68%)	204 (24%)	64 (8%)
5	2,271	1,129 (50%)	989 (43%)	153 (7%)
6	3,854	1,159 (30%)	1,318 (34%)	1,377 (36%)
7	3,334	1,152 (35%)	1,530 (46%)	652 (19%)
8	1,439	521 (36%)	634 (44%)	284 (20%)
1983 Statewide	19,307	7,092 (37%)	7,309 (38%)	4,906 (25%)
1982 Statewide	19,913	7,663 (39%)	7,777 (39%)	4,473 (22%)

a. Includes criminal cases above a simple misdemeanor and simple misdemeanors on appeal.

APPENDIX C

POPULATION PER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

DISTRICT	JUDGES	DISTRICT POPULATION[a]	POPULATION PER JUDGE
1	12	398,026	33,169
2	17	500,243	29,426
3	11	354,379	32,216
4	6	198,726	33,110
5	21	538,716	25,653
6	11	330,504	30,045
7	10	298,718	29,872
8	11	294,496	26,772
Statewide	99	2,913,808	29,432

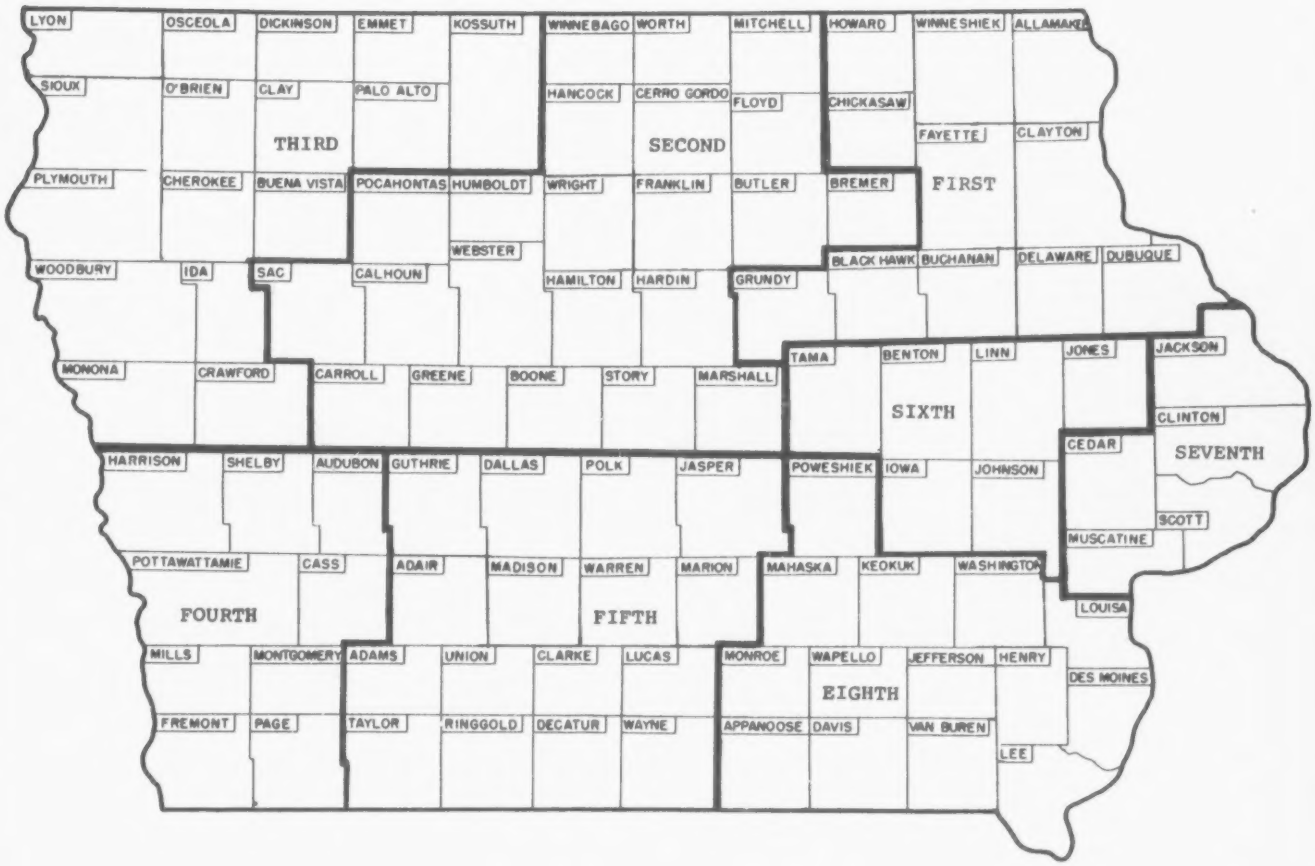
a. Official 1980 population statistics — U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

APPENDIX D

IOWA'S EIGHT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS — POPULATION*

First District	398,026	Fifth District	538,716
Second District	500,243	Sixth District	330,504
Third District	354,379	Seventh District	298,718
Fourth District	198,726	Eighth District	294,496

STATE TOTAL — 2,913,808

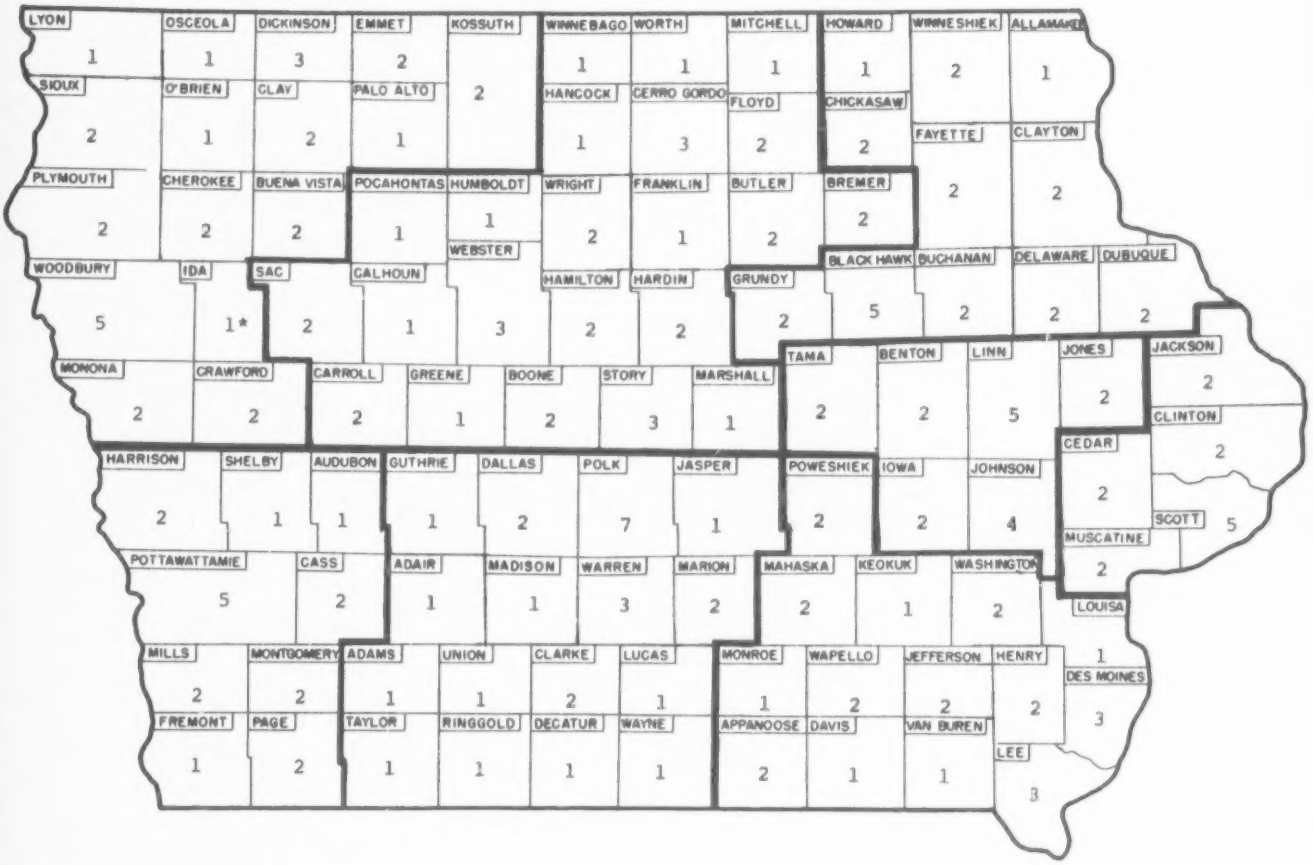


*Official 1980 population figures — U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

APPENDIX E

ALLOCATION OF PART-TIME JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES JULY 1, 1983 THROUGH JULY 1, 1985

36 - one Magistrate counties
49 - two Magistrate counties
7 - three Magistrate counties
1 - four Magistrate county
5 - five Magistrate counties
1 - seven Magistrate county



* Counties taking the option of appointing one additional Part-time Magistrate as provided in Section 602.58.

APPENDIX F

FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1956-1983

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL[b]	TOTAL	(PER JUDGE)	JUVENILE[c]	PROBATE[d] OPENED
1983	99	51,476	39,952	91,428	(924)	5,532	24,233
1982	95	55,763	39,008	94,771	(998)	5,363	24,329
1981	95	58,225	36,932	95,157	(1,002)	5,570	24,192
1980	92	58,442	35,669	94,111	(1,028)	5,501	23,452
1979	92	51,031	31,026	82,057	(892)	5,227	23,479
1978	92	46,498	27,942	74,440	(809)	6,179	24,218
1977	92	43,324	28,795	72,119	(784)	6,000	23,202
1976	89	40,103	26,009	66,112	(742)	5,744	22,896
1975	84	37,963	23,600	61,563	(733)	5,685	22,640
1974	83	36,216	20,653	56,869	(685)	5,446	22,646
1973	83	38,057	16,148	54,205	(653)	3,730	22,803
1972	76	40,483	10,699	51,182	(673)	2,567	21,953
1971	76	40,315	11,300	51,615	(679)	3,249	21,317
1970	76	37,965	10,140	48,105	(633)	3,224	20,470
1969	76	35,574	9,505	45,079	(593)	2,876	20,158
1968	75	33,617	8,367	41,984	(560)	2,626	19,520
1967	76	31,646	7,496	39,142	(515)	2,367	19,310
1966	75	30,310	7,159	37,469	(500)	2,146	19,515
1965	75	29,207	7,432	36,639	(489)	2,163	19,463
1964	75	28,405	7,004	35,409	(472)	2,341	19,034
1963	75	28,138	6,641	34,779	(464)	2,096	18,532
1962	75	28,528	7,113	35,641	(475)	2,035	17,831
1961	75	28,288	7,209	35,497	(473)	1,880	17,346
1960	73	26,767	7,260	34,027	(466)	2,012	17,248
1959	73	25,136	7,086	32,222	(441)	2,005	17,117
1958	72	23,661	6,724	30,385	(422)	1,937	16,694
1957	72	23,579	6,486	30,065	(418)	1,921	16,945
1956	70	22,922	6,178	29,100	(416)	1,607	16,137

a. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims on appeal.

b. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.

c. Includes petitions filed in ordinary juvenile matters; e.g., delinquency, child and family in need of assistance and interstate compacts (extradition) matters; does not encompass cases involving termination of parental rights.

d. Includes the number of estates, trusteeships, guardianships and conservatorships opened.

APPENDIX G

OTHER FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

YEAR	SIMPLE MISDEMEANORS	SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS	SMALL CLAIMS
1983	221,841	415,711	67,298
1982	231,998	425,272	67,967
1981	267,436	470,553	75,259
1980	292,037	490,158	82,208
1979	291,404	462,224	78,141
1978	319,481	476,955	72,054
1977	410,862	310,710	65,434
1976	410,696	285,086	62,416
1975	375,707	223,622	63,582
1974*	286,504	198,147	68,021

*This was the first full year under the new unified court system which became effective July 1, 1973.

APPENDIX H

CIVIL/CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS BY DISTRICT COURT JUDGES[a]
1956–1983

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	TOTAL	PER JUDGE
1983	99	52,706	19,815	72,521	733
1982	95	54,484	19,027	73,511	774
1981	95	54,511	17,834	72,345	762
1980	92	52,799	17,448	70,247	764
1979	92	47,754	15,098	62,852	683
1978	92	41,898	14,561	56,459	614
1977	92	38,682	17,200	55,882	607
1976	89	37,319	17,750	55,069	619
1975	84	35,737	14,874	50,611	603
1974	83	35,007	14,268	49,275	594
1973	83	38,381	12,384	50,765	612
1972	76	40,553	11,147	51,700	680
1971	76	38,455	10,659	49,114	646
1970	76	35,636	9,304	44,940	591
1969	76	32,642	8,676	41,318	544
1968	75	29,541	8,035	37,576	501
1967	76	29,343	7,267	36,610	482
1966	75	30,140	6,916	37,056	494
1965	75	30,280	6,654	36,934	492
1964	75	28,258	6,757	35,015	467
1963	75	29,342	6,551	35,893	479
1962	75	28,941	7,165	36,106	481
1961	75	30,616	7,556	38,172	509
1960	73	24,094	7,196	31,290	429
1959	73	23,988	6,949	30,937	424
1958	72	23,304	6,533	29,837	414
1957	72	23,302	6,932	30,234	420
1956	70	21,741	5,836	27,577	394

a. Does not include civil and criminal cases disposed of by judges of limited jurisdiction and judicial magistrates.
b. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims cases appealed to the district court.
c. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.